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ALFORD FAMILY NOTES

Ancient and Modern.

COMPILED BY

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London:

PRINTED FOR PRIVATE CIRCULATION AND ISSUED BY
PHILLIMORE AND CO., 124, CHANCERY LANE.

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PREFACE.

IT is now over twenty-five years since there fell into my hands, through the death of an octogenarian relative, various Wills, Documents, and Papers affording much accurate information concerning the history of my family.

The possession of these papers naturally aroused interest, and I soon became aware of a desire on the part of one here and another there to learn something more of the family antecedents, and of the details of that record of an honorable ancestry of which there was a traditional knowledge.

Some years previously Henry Alford, Dean of Canterbury, had traced out his line of the family for several generations, while others since had put together valuable memoranda of their immediate connections.

There also came to light some manuscript notes by the late Reverend Frederick Browne, a celebrated Somersetshire genealogist of the last century, showing the connection of the families of Alford, Symes, and Sydenham, all of that County.

Thus, on the one hand, I found a strong desire and frequent enquiry for information, and, on the other, a supply of available sources from which that desire could be gratified. The desire, moreover, appealed to me as an eminently reasonable one, for there is something, surely, in hereditary influence upon character; and though, as far as I knew, we could claim no descent from men of noble birth or of great fame, yet a history of some centuries of educated and cultured family-life seemed for the sake of those still to come, worthy of record in definite and permanent form.

I resolved therefore to make the attempt, and, having once commenced, the work of collection and compilation became a

pleasure,—a hobby (I may as well confess it)—leading naturally to much further research, and occupying quietly many a spare hour through all these years.

The result I now offer to my kith and kin in these "Family Notes", the private publication of which is subscribed for by various members of the family, to some of whom,—especially Miss Rose Alford, of Heale Cottage, the Rev. Daniel Pring Alford, of Taunton, and Mr. Robert Alford, of Heale House,—I tender my hearty thanks for the valuable assistance they have given me in collecting the material for the work.

The value of the book is, moreover, greatly increased by our good fortune in securing the experienced professional assistance of Mr. W. P. W. Phillimore as Editor.

We cannot pretend to produce legal proof of every fact or statement included, but would nevertheless distinctly state that nothing has been passed by Compiler or Editor without good ground for acceptance. Many points, however, are manifestly incomplete, affording ample opportunity for further research and future addition.

Regret must be expressed that it has been impossible to include records of some, who, though closely connected, are not themselves Alfords. The mass of information concerning the actual family precluded any wider view.

J. G. Alford

Bristol,
December, 1908.

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Twenty-seven Autograph Signatures.

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The Family of Alford.

ALFORD is a surname evidently of local origin, the ancient form of which was Aldeford, signifying "Old Ford", whence Aldford, and the modern form Alford. Places thus named are found in Cheshire, Lincolnshire, and Somerset, and it is probable that from these the various families of Alford or Aldford have taken their name. From the western county comes the family to which the compiler of these notes belongs, whose pedigree in the College of Arms dates from 1564.

In early days, however, the Aldford family of most repute was that springing from the North of England. The lords of Aldford are mentioned in the Cheshire Domesday Book, and from the Aldford in this county that family took its name.

"There was in ancient times a castle, the chief seat of the family of Aldford, who had large possessions in Cheshire." The earth-work remains of Aldford Castle are still visible, overlooking the old ford across the river Dee, about four miles above Chester. The Roman road from that city leads straight as an arrow to the ford, and the immediate vicinity of the then hostile and wild Welsh tribes shows at once the importance of the position from a military point of view.

In 1160 the command of this Castle was given to "Robertus, miles, a descendant of de Bigot, probably by female descent", who thus became lord of Aldford, and the founder of the family that has since borne that name.

The command of the Castle appears to have been regarded as hereditary, for Robertus de Aldford was succeeded by his son, Richard Aldford, living in the time of King John, who married Sara, dau. of Richard Fitz-Eustace, Baron of Halton. To him succeeded his son, also Richard de Aldford, who held Aldford, and the manor of Newton, Sussex. By one of these Aldford Hall was built, a neighbouring mansion, afterwards used as a farm house, and now rebuilt. It was, however, "for many generations the seat and manor of the ancient family of the Aldfords, who acquired it by grant from one of the Earls of Chester".

Although these early members of the family were thus Lords of Aldford, they were not barons or peers, but "tenants in chief of the crown by military service". The title, therefore, was dependent upon the office, and was not hereditary.

The Castle of Aldford had an ancient claim upon lands at Barrington and Chillington, in the county of Somerset, for the provision of a man to serve at that Castle in time of war.

The direct male line of the family became extinct in 1202, when Margaret, daughter and heiress of Richard de Aldford, last named, married Sir John Arderne. The chief part of the property thus passed to the Ardernes, through them to the Fittons and Grosvenors, and was eventually sold.

Younger branches, however, still continued, in Thomas, who took the name of his wife and her property, and in Robert de Alford, whose descendants for several generations held the manor, though not the Castle, of Aldford, but at length sold it.

His son, Thomas Alford, from whom sprang the various branches of the family, held the castle of Holt in Denbighshire, which is about two miles higher up the river Dee, and upon the opposite bank, the places being thus adjacent, although in different counties. The ruins of Holt Castle are most interesting. It was destroyed by Cromwell's soldiers in 1650, having been sold by John Alford some fifty years before.

In 1604 an enquiry took place at Farndon (a town of some importance in those days, and joined to Holt by a curious bridge across the Dee), in a suit of William Tatton and Roger Puleston, concerning "lord Alford's lands", which included property in Overton and in Norton-Madock. The interest in this is deepened by the reference to the latter property in the will of Robert, Alford of London, 1546, founder of the Sussex and Hertfordshire branch of the family; and also by the marriage of Anne, daughter of Richard Alford of Overton, with John Puleston, recorded on a tablet in Farndon church bearing the Alford arms: Six pears, stalks upward, as for Berks and Bucks.

It may also be appropriately mentioned here, as showing the possible connection of the various families of the name, that "from the Alfords of Holt descended Joseph Alford, author of two religious treatises published in London in 1649" under the titles of *The Soul Dispensatory* and *The Church Triumphant*. These books are dedicated to Sir John Brownlow, and Joseph Alford, the author, was born at Winsham in Somerset.

It is worthy of note that the Brownlow family use this name as a title for the eldest son, Viscount and Lady

Marion Alford honourably bearing it during the last century. The estates of this family lie largely in the eastern counties, where it is interesting to find that "Roger Bigot, ancestor of the Earls of Norfolk, and of the family of Aldford, held the manors of Pulling and of Thurne in the county of Norfolk", both of which rectories were held in the fifteenth century by members of the Alford family.

The various BRANCHES of the family springing from Thomas Alford of Holt (No. 8 in Table I) must now be noticed.

I.—The eldest son, John, continued the line which remained at Holt for some years, but became well-known later in Yorkshire, and also in Buckinghamshire and Berkshire.

Launcelot Alford, his youngest son, settled at Meaux Abbey in Yorkshire, "a splendid pile, the pride and ornament of that part of Holderness", of which, unfortunately, there now are scarcely any remains left.

Members of the family also became possessed of property at Beverley, which place they represented in Parliament, and at Bilton in Holderness; but these Yorkshire Alfords failed in a male heir, and appear to have died out in the middle of the seventeenth century.

On the sale of Holt Castle, about the year 1600, as already related, John Alford, grandson of John of Holt above mentioned, took up his abode at Fawley Court, in the county of Buckingham. His grandson, Henry Alford, afterwards became possessed of Hall Place, Hurley, in Berkshire, but a short distance from Fawley,

the boundary of the counties passing through the lawn of Fawley Court.

Thus the family spread into Berkshire, where we find also Francis Alford, esquire, of Lambourn, in 1589, and his son, Henry Alford, of Wokingham, in 1619, who were members, however, of the second branch of the family. Thomas Alford of this line was mayor of High Wycombe, and died in 1704, while George Alford held the same office in 1710.

The Bucks and Berks Alfords, however, like those of Yorkshire, seem to have become extinct, or to have failed to maintain a position of importance. Particulars of these lines follow in due course.

II.—Going back again to Thomas Alford of Holt Castle, in order to trace the second branch, we find that Robert, his second son, went to London, and through his grandson, Edward Alford, of Offington, founded the family settled in Sussex and Hertfordshire. The association with the latter county was merely by marriage; but it is interesting to note that the connection with Sussex was of much earlier date, Richard de Alford (see Table I), whose daughter and heiress married Sir John Arderne, having held the Manor of Newton, co. Sussex.

Offington House, the Sussex family seat, is in the parish of Broadwater, near the modern town of Worthing, but passed away from the Alford family in 1744.

This branch ended with the death of John Alford, esq., of Coombs, co. Sussex, "the last of the ancient family of that name".

An account of these Sussex and Hertfordshire branches is given later, with accompanying table pedigree.

III.—Going back once more to Thomas Alford of Holt, we find in his youngest son, Thomas (Table I), the founder of the third branch of the old northern stock, the Alfords of Hereford and Coventry. Of him some interesting notes will be found hereafter.

Thomas Alford, though his official positions connected him especially with London, obtained property in Herefordshire. In that part of the country his family maintained their interest for the next hundred years or so at Cawtherhill and Norton Canon, in co. Hereford, and at Coventry, Tewkesbury and Daventry.

The London interest was of longer duration, but at the close of another hundred years the senior line apparently died out, and though it may be that junior lines continued the family, it has not been found possible to trace their descendants. Particulars of the Alfords of Hereford and Coventry follow in Chapter IV.

Various settlements of the name occur in other counties, which it seems desirable to record here so far as they have been noted, and we may commence with instances in *Norfolk* and *Suffolk*.

Roger Bigot, ancestor of the Earl of Norfolk, and of the Alfords, held the Manors of Pulling and of Thurne, in the county of Norfolk.

Thomas Alford was Rector of Thurne, Norfolk, 1438.

Thomas Alford, Rector of Bereford, Norfolk, 1451.

Thomas Alford was Prebendary of Lincoln Cathedral from 1466 to 1485, in which latter year he died and was buried in the Cathedral.

Richard Alford was Vicar of Burnham, Norfolk, in 1485.

Thomas Alford was Rector of Pulling, Norfolk, 1503.

Thomas Alford in 35 Henry VIII, *i.e.*, 1544–5, held the Manor of

Osmunds, in Sutton, with one hundred acres of land, of the Duke of Norfolk.

The connection with Norfolk may have led to an expansion into *Suffolk*, for a grant of arms to Alfords of Suffolk is recorded—"on a saltire, between four griffin's heads, a lion passant."

In *Nottinghamshire* we find from :—

Thoroton's *Antiquities of Nottinghamshire* that Henry Alford held the manor of Hockerton, in that county, in the reign of Henry VII; and was patron of the living in 9 Henry VII. He married, 1494, Christiana Multon, of Rousby, Lincolnshire. Robert Alford was their only son and heir.

In *Northamptonshire* occur the following :—

Thomas Alford, Vicar of Lamport, Northamptonshire, 1463.

Thomas Alford was Vicar of Cranford, in the same county, 1488.

The Probate Registry at Northampton, 1510-1520, contains the will of John Alforde, of Clipstone (Bk. A, p. 1). To the Alfords of Northants are ascribed the arms, "a shield fretty".

Lincoln Marriage Licences, supply :—

1639, January 15. Zacharie Alford, of Great Grimsbie, gent., æt. 35, and Anne Clayton, of same, widow, æt. 34.

1669, May 6. Robert Alford, of Great Grimsby, mariner, and Katherine Thorold.

Amongst the *Wills in the Prerogative Court of Canterbury*, are :—

Robert Alford, of Lincoln, 1654. Will, 131 Alchin.
Zachary Alford, Lincoln, 1655. Admon.
Ann Alford, of Lincoln, 1659. Will, 12 Pell.

We now turn to the Alfords of the West of England. Between these and the foregoing family of Northern descent a possible connection has already been alluded to in the claim for service from Somersetshire at Aldford Castle, and also at a later date, with reference to Joseph Alford the author. It appears again in the fact that Thomas Alford, of the present Somersetshire family,

was presented to the Vicarage of Weston Zoyland, by the Bridges family, which latter family was connected by marriage with the Alfords of the Northern stock.

The name of Alford occurs in Somerset in *Domesday Book*, and with the same variety of spelling, which seems to have been a matter of absolute indifference.

The Bruton and Montacute cartularies mention Thomas de Aldítheford, and Roger Aldítheford, while the name Aldeforde also occurs in these records.

The existence of the parish of Alford, in Somerset, would naturally suggest that the Somersetshire families derived their surname from that place, and it is interesting to note that while no proof is forthcoming of this, the Somerset Alfords cluster in a circle at various distances from the village of Alford.

The name of Alford occurs as early as 1327 in the Subsidy Rolls of *Somerset*, and by the sixteenth century, when wills were available and parish registers commenced, there were families bearing the name in several parts of the south-west of England, and some of them distinctly in good position in life.

At Mere, in the county of *Wilts*, we find the family that afterwards spread to Stourton. At Winsham, on the borders of Somersetshire, resided a family that continued there for many a year, and also gave rise to the *Dorsetshire* Alfords who were settled at Lyme Regis. Through William Alford, of Lyme, sprang also the family of Ottery St. Mary Through John Alford, who died in 1562, came the Alfords of Bridport, in whom the connection with the Mere and Stourton branch is afterwards evident, as also the *Devonshire* families which sprang up

at Bowe, Okehampton, and Wear Gifford. And through Henry Alford, living at Weston Zoyland in the time of Elizabeth, came, with a pedigree recorded through eleven generations in Heralds' College, the present-day *Somerset* line.

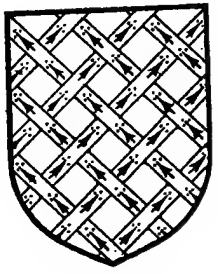
This introduction would be incomplete unless it looked also beyond the seas, for in America and in Australia are many bearing the name of Alford who will be interested to trace their descent from the old country.

In the *United States* are some who now spell their name "Alvord", the corruption itself leading back to Somersetshire. It will be seen in the following pages how these are for the most part descended from an Alexander Alford of Whitestaunton, near Chard, who settled at Windsor, Connecticut. Other families, however, must seek their descent from a William Alford of London, who settled a little later at Salem, Massachusetts.

With regard to *Australia*, the connection is of course more recent, and the Somersetshire notes will readily show to some a descent from the "Bishop's branch" of the Alford family of that county.

Table I.

The Early Aldfords of Aldford Castle in Cheshire.



1. Robertus, Miles, Dominus de Aldford, held the Manor and Castle of Aldford, *c.* 1160.

2. Ricardus, Lord of Aldford, nupsit *Sara* fil. Ric. Fitz-Eustace Baronis de Halton, held the Manor and Castle of Aldford, *temp.* King John, *c.* 1200.

3. Ricardus de Aldford, lord of Aldford, held the Castle and Fee of Aldford.

Margaret, heiress of Aldford Manor, m. 1202 Sir John Arderne.

4. Radulfus de Aldford, living 50 Henry III, *i.e.* 1265-6, tenuit terras in Aldford et Falwiz Com : Cestriæ.

Robertus de Aldford, Qui dedit fratri suo Henrico terras de Falwiz in Adderley.

5. Henricus de Aldford, Cui frater Robertus dedit terras Falwiz. Junior branches of the family continued in—

6. Thomas (or Henry) de Aldford, *alias* Falwiz ; vixit apud Falwiz *temp.* Edw. I and II, *c.* 1300 ; a younger son of the ancient family of Aldford, assumed the name of his wife, and her property.

7. Robert de Aldford, a very early offshoot of the original Lords of Aldford. Held the Manor of Aldford.

Richard Alford, of Erbistock, near Holt, sold his property there to his nephew Robert Alford of London.

8. Thomas Alford, of Holt, Denbighshire, m. *Jane*, dau. of John Salisbury.

Roger Alford, of Chelmsford, co. Essex, d. 1517 (will) ; m. Margaret.

i. John Alford, *a quo* Alfords of Bucks, Berks, and Yorks.

TABLE II.

ii. Robert Alford, *a quo* Alfords of Sussex and Herts.

TABLE III.

iii. Peter Alford, of London, m. *Johanna* ; she d. ~~1492~~ (Will). 1493

iv. Edward Alford.

v. Thomas Alford, *a quo* (presumed) Alfords of Hereford and Coventry.

TABLE IV.

John Alford, of London, d. 1535 (will) ; m. *Alice*.

The Early Cheshire Alfords.

THE foregoing Pedigree, with its Latin notes from the British Museum manuscripts furnishes an authentic account of this early Aldford,—and afterwards Alford,—family. It is clear that some generations are omitted, but no doubt is possible as to the general accuracy of the descent.

The Aldfords of Aldford bore as their arms—Gules, fretty ermine. A grant of arms is also recorded as made to Laurence Alford in the reign of Richard III.

The Cheshire collection contains many deeds of Richard de Aldford, who lived in the reign of King John. Among these documents occurs a fragment of his seal. This displays a man clad in armour with shield in his left hand and an uplifted sword in his right. He is seated upon a horse at full gallop. Round this remains part of the inscription—RIC . . . . . D

The only remains of Aldford Castle are the earth-works, which are extensive and interesting. They occupy an angle formed by the junction of a tributary stream with the River Dee, about four miles above Chester. An iron bridge has of late years replaced an old ferry across the Dee, which ferry had replaced the old ford (Alde-ford), from which the family name originated. When visiting the place some years ago, a man of 75 stated to the writer that as a boy he remembered this ferry, and that when the water was low the ferry-boat had to avoid a

stone course crossing the bottom of the river, doubtless the remains of the ancient ford. The Roman road from Chester leads through the Eaton estate straight to the ford. The site of the Keep of the Castle is now locally called "Blobb Hill". The village of Aldford lies just to the south of the Castle; and about three quarters of a mile still further south, near the road to Farndon and Holt, stands a new farm-house, which replaced the old Aldford Hall, which was pulled down in 1883.

The Harleian Society's volume for Cheshire records the marriage of "Robert (Richard) Alford, Knight, with Mary, daughter of Richard Fitz-Eustace".

The pedigree of the family and descendants of Henry Alford, *alias* Fallows or Falwiz, who, about the year 1300, being a "younger son of the ancient family of the Aldfords", "assumed the name of his wife and her property", will be found in Earwaker's *Cheshire.*

Holt Castle came into the possession of Thomas Alford, second son of Robert de Alford, probably by his marriage, about the year 1500. An old oil painting still exists at Holt of the Castle as it stood in those days. The little town of Holt is less than three miles from Aldford, but being on the opposite bank of the Dee it is in Denbighshire. The position of the Castle of Holt is remarkable. It was perched upon a red rock, almost a pentagon in shape, surrounded by a moat filled from the River Dee, which runs but a few yards distant and formed a natural defence upon the eastern side. The other sides of the Castle were protected by the sharp rise in the level of the ground in each direction, cut away artificially so as to form a perpendicular face of cliff. The picturesque ruin now belongs to Lord Kenyon.

Four generations of the Alford family held the Castle of Holt, the fourth,—John Alford of Fawley Court—selling it shortly before his death in 1600.

The Holt Parish Registers only go back as far as 1662, and therefore contain no entries relating to the Alford family. It will be desirable to record here the following wills :—

Johanne Alford, widowe, late wyfe of Peter Alford, citizen of London, 1493. To be buried "in the parishe Churche of St. George in Podyng Lane, otherwise called Rose Lane, where the bodie of my husband lyes". To the Church of St. George "a goblett of sylver gyltt". To Margaret my servant. Residue to my well-beloved Cosen Thomas Makworth.—29, *Dogett, P.C.C.*

Roger Alford of Chelmsford, Essex, 1517. "To Margaret my wyffe . . . . to John my sonne my geldyng that goeth in Stansted Park ; my service of sylver and gylt ;" etc. My cousin Robert Alford of London, and Sir John Stafford, Executors.—5, *Ayloffe, P.C.C.*

John Alford, citizen of London, 1535. "I bequith my soule unto Almightie God, and to his moste glorious Mother our Ladye, and my bodie to be buryed in the parishe Church of St. Swithin in London, in the cloyster there." To my Cousin Johanne Alforde . . . residue unto Alice my wife. My right trustie friend Robert Alforde and the said Alice, Executors. "To my Cousin Launcelott Alford a blak gowne".—20, *Hogen, P.C.C.*

The Chester wills begin only at 1545, previous to which year Wills of that district were proved at Lichfield, out of which diocese that of Chester was formed. No Alford wills are to be found at either Registry.

A mural tablet at the east end of the north aisle in Farndon Church, which is upon the Cheshire bank of the Dee, immediately opposite Holt, records a marriage of Puleston with Alford, and bears the arms of Alford of Holt : Six pears with a chief.

We now deal with the founders of the three branches of the Cheshire Alfords.

John Alford, the eldest son of Thomas Alford of Holt and Jane Salisbury his wife, in due course became the possessor of Holt Castle. He married and continued the senior line of the family through his eldest son, John Alford (junior), afterwards also of Holt Castle. The Bucks and Berks and Yorkshire Alfords were his descendants—those of the former counties through this eldest son, and those of Yorkshire at first in his sons Peter and Launcelot, but ultimately also through his son John above mentioned. See Table II and following notes.

Robert Alford, the second son of Thomas of Holt and Jane his wife, was the founder of the Sussex and Hertfordshire branch. He married into the family of Brydges of Gloucestershire and of Somerset. Three of his sons entered into political life, causing the Alford name to be familiar in Parliamentary Reports and State Records. See Table III and following notes.

Thomas Alford, the fifth and youngest son of Thomas and Jane of Holt, was apparently the founder of the Hereford and Coventry family. He is mentioned in an ancient deed in 1505, as "of the county of Hereford". In 1529 he was a Gentleman Usher in the Court of King Henry VIII, and was afterwards appointed "Signer or Sealer in Chancery", which office he held until his death in 1535. See Table IV and following notes.

The Alfords of Buckinghamshire, Berkshire, and Yorkshire.

THIS, the senior of the three chief branches of the Alford family, extended over a period of about two hundred years, spreading from Holt Castle, in co. Denbigh, to Meaux Abbey and Beverley, and Bilton in Yorkshire, then also to Fawley Court, on the banks of the Thames, in Buckinghamshire, and finally to Hurley and High Wycombe, in Berkshire.

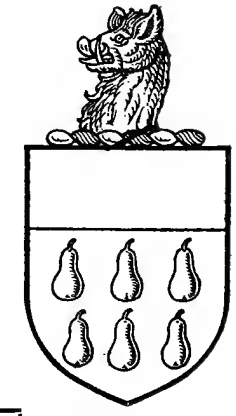
The armorial bearings of this branch of the family were:—"Gules, six pears or, three and three, stalks upward, with a chief of the last. Crest: a boar's head."

The Coat of Arms—"Gules, six pears, and a chief or' was originally granted to the Alfords of Holt, co. Denbigh, and confirmed to the descendants of this family as follows:—at the Visitation of York, 1612, to Sir William Alford of Bilton; at the Visitation of Sussex, 1634, to John Alford of Offington; at the Visitation of London, 1634, to John Alford of the said City.

Meaux Abbey, in the parish of Waghen or Wawne, in that part of Yorkshire called Holderness, was an ancient monastic building of much interest and importance. A drawing of the last century shows only some ruined arches and columns, but even these are now almost destroyed. Launcelot Alford, who died 1562, was the first of the family who possessed it, his nephew, Sir Launcelot, succeeding him. Sir William, his son, came

Table II.

Alford of Holt, afterwards of Bucks and Berks, and Alford of Yorkshire.



1. John Alford, of Holt Castle, [See TABLE I.] m. *Elizabeth*, dau. Sir Bryan Withyforth.

- 2. John Alford, of Holt Castle, m. *Elizabeth*, dau. Sir John Pickering.
  - 3. John Alford, of Holt Castle, afterwards of Fawley Court, Bucks, d. 1600, (Will 14). Sold the Castle of Holt and the manor of Aldford; m. *Elizabeth Oglethorpe*, of Newenton, Oxon.
    - John, died young.
    - 4. Henry Alford, of Hall Place, Hurley, Berkshire; b. 1578; d. 1645; m. *Bridget*, dau. of William de la Pole (Powle), of Cotes, Glos.
      - Henry. — William, b. 1607, Captain. — John.
      - 5. Thomas Alford, of Hall Place, Hurley, Berkshire.
        - *Anne Alford*, of Hall Place; d. 1679; (Will 63).
      - *Mary*. — *Catherine*, m. 1625, Geo. Manby. — *Beatrix*. — *Agnes*.
  - Arthur Alford. — Cativin Alford.
  - Sir Launcelot Alford, knt., M.P., 1588, for Beverley, of Meaux Abbey, m. *Ann*, dau. of Sir William Knowlys, knt., of Bilton.
    - (1) *Elizabeth*, dau. of Robert Rokes, of Fawley, Berks. = Sir William Alford, knt., M.P. for Beverley, of Bilton, afterwards of Meaux Abbey. = (2) *Elizabeth*, dau. of Sir Wm. Clarke, of Weston, Oxon.
      - *Margaret*, d. s.p., m. Sir Robert Strickland.
      - *Ann*, d. unmarried.
      - *Elizabeth*, d. unmarried.
      - *Dorothy*, d. 1657, m. Sir Thomas Grantham.
  - Edward Alford, M.P. for Beverley, in 1592 and 1597.
- William Alford, B.A., Oxford, 1522, secular priest; living 1566.
- Peter Alford, of Sutton, Yorkshire, d. 1566.
- Launcelot Alford, of Meaux Abbey, Yorkshire, bur. at Beverley Minster, 1562.

next, and there being no male heir it passed to his daughter, Dorothy Alford. Through her marriage with Sir Thomas Grantham this splendid property passed at her death (in 1657) into other hands.

The Record Office "State Papers," 1558, contain "Particulars of the late Monastery of Meaux, Yorks., leased to Launcelot Alford in 1540."

In the reign of Elizabeth, Launcelot Alford was Member of Parliament for Beverley once, and Edward Alford twice. In the reign of Charles I, William Alford was returned three times, and after his third election was knighted. The *History of Beverley* speaks of the Alfords as "a very old Yorkshire family."

Beverlae (pp. 390 and 391), gives these particulars more definitely, including amongst the members for that Borough:—

7th Parliament of Elizabeth, Launcelot Alford.
8th Parliament of Elizabeth, Edward Alford.
9th Parliament of Elizabeth, Edward Alford.
1st Parliament of Charles I, William Alford.
2nd Parliament of Charles I, William Alford.
3rd Parliament of Charles I, Sir William Alford, Knt.

We commence this line with:—

1. **John Alford,** senior, of Holt Castle, was the eldest son of Thomas Alford of Holt, and Jane Salisbury, his wife. He married *Elizabeth*, daughter of Sir Bryan *Withyforth*, and through them continued the senior line of Holt Castle, and from him came also the Alfords of Berkshire, Buckinghamshire, and Yorkshire.

Their sons were:—

i. *John Alford*, of whom hereafter (**2**).
ii. *William Alford*, the second son, graduated at Oxford, and took Holy Orders. Foster's *Alumni Oxonienses*

records :—" Alford, William, Secular Priest, B.A. 1522." He was living in 1566, when he was a legatee under his brother Peter's will.

iii. *Peter Alford* of Sutton, in Yorkshire, near Meaux Abbey, died 1566, and was buried in the church of Sutton.

iv. *Launcelot Alford*, was the founder,—through his nephew, for he left no son,—of the family afterwards of some note in Yorkshire. He lived at Meaux Abbey in Holderness, of which fine estate and splendid pile he took a long lease in 1540. He died in 1562, and was buried in Beverley Minster.

2. John Alford, junior, eldest son of John Alford and Elizabeth Withyforth of Holt, succeeded his father in the possession of Holt Castle. He married *Elizabeth*, daughter of Sir John *Pickering* of Holt, Knight, and had five sons :—

i. *John Alford*, of whom hereafter (**3**).

ii. *Sir Launcelot Alford*, nephew of the above-mentioned Launcelot, succeeded his uncle at Meaux Abbey in 1562. Amongst the "Governors of Beverley incorporated by Queen Elizabeth" stands the name of Sir Launcelot Alford, 1573. He became M.P. for Beverley in 1588, was Mayor of the Town in 1591; and was knighted by James I, at York, in 1603. He married *Ann*, daughter of Sir William *Knowles* of Bilton in Yorkshire, the estate of Bilton descending to their son.

Sir William Alford, only son of Sir Launcelot, was born in 1571, and matriculated at Magdalen College, Oxford, as William Alford of Yorks, gent., in 1586, aged 15. At first described as "of Bilton", he afterwards appears to have succeeded his father at Meaux Abbey. "Sir William Alford of Bilton had a grant of lands in Meaux in 1634." His London residence was in the parish of St. Dunstan, where a list of owners of "Faire Houses in the Friars, 1628", includes "Sir Wm. Alford". He was Member for Beverley from 1625 to 1628, in which latter year he, too, received the honour of knighthood.

The Record Office "State Papers" give the following:—"1626. Sir William Alford reports to Buckingham, proceedings under the Duke's commission with relation to three ships cast ashore at Barmeston."

Sir William was twice married, first to *Elizabeth* daughter of Robert Rokes of Fawley, Bucks, and secondly to *Elizabeth* daughter of William Clarke of Weston, Oxfordshire.

Sir William Alford had no son, but two daughters by each marriage. His eldest daughter *Margaret* married, in 1640, Sir Robert Strickland of Westmoreland, who fought at Edgehill for the King, and died childless. His second daughter *Ann*, was buried at Waghen, Yorks, in 1659, a spinster. The third daughter *Elizabeth*, also died unmarried. His youngest daughter, and ultimate heiress, *Dorothy*, married Sir Thomas Grantham, inherited Meaux Abbey from her father, and died in 1657.

A small silver ring, in the possession of the Compiler, was discovered in the ruins of Meaux Abbey some years ago. It is inscribed "Sir William Allford of Mewx".

iii. *Edward Alford* was M.P. for Beverley in 1592 and 1597.
iv. *Arthur Alford.*
v. *Cativin Alford.*

3. John Alford, the third of that name, of Holt, was the eldest son and heir of John Alford (junior) of Holt Castle. He married *Elizabeth Oglethorpe* of Newenton, Oxfordshire, and settled at Fawley Court, Buckinghamshire, on the banks of the Thames. When, on his father's death, Holt Castle came into his possession, he sold it, together with the Manor of Aldford, shortly before 1600, in which year he died. He had two sons, John who died in childhood, and Henry who succeeded him. John Alford was patron of the living of Fawley, and presented Richard Clerk, A.B., to it in 1583.

Langley's *History of Desborough*, a part of the county of Buckingham (pp. 187 and 198), speaks of Fawley Court and Manor, which "came to the Alfords by marriage". From Alford this Manor came to Sir James Whitelock, but whether by purchase or by descent is uncertain.

In the *Royal Commission Papers*, xxii, 143, etc., 1650, concerning Viscount Dunbar, mention is made of John Alford, deceased, and Sir William Alford, as trustees.

John Alforde of Fawley in the Co. of Buckingham, Esquire, 1600. "To my wife Elizabeth . . . lands . . . tenements . . . . in the County of Bucks . . . . of Oxfordshire . . . and elsewhere . . . . for her life. Remainder thereof to my son Henrie Alford, and in default of his surviving to my nephew William, son of my brother Launcelot Alforde . . . . . My cousin Edward Alforde." . . . .
P.C.C., 20 *Wallop*.

John Alford and Elizabeth Oglethorpe had issue :—

i. *John Alford* died young.
ii. *Henry Alford* of whom next (4).

4. **Henry Alford,** of Hall Place, Hurley, esquire, was born about 1578, and matriculated at Exeter College, Oxford, in 1594, at the age of 15. He was admitted to Gray's Inn in 1601, afterwards qualifying as a Barrister. Hall Place, in Berkshire, where he lived, is an estate close to Fawley, although in another county. Henry Alford married *Bridget de la Pole* of Coates, Glos., and had four sons and four daughters. He died at the age of 67, and was buried at Fawley, in the chancel of which Church stands a monument to his memory.

Fawley, Buckinghamshire. (In the Chancel.)
Arms :—Gules, six pears or, impaling azure semé de fleur-de-lys.
"Henricus Alford, Armiger.
Equestri familiâ in agro Eboracensi prognatus.
Obiit apud manerium suum de
Hall Place in Hurley co. Berks.
Oct. 14, 1645. Ætatis suæ 67."

Also "Brigetta de la Pole wife of the above Henry Alford."

The children of Henry and Bridget Alford were :—

i. *Henry Alford.*
ii. *Thomas Alford*, of whom next (**5**).
iii. *William Alford*, to whom the following probably refers :—

In the Civil War in the reign of Charles I, "William Alford, Lieutenant in Lord Grandison's Regiment in the Royalist army", is mentioned in 1640; also "Captain Alford in 1642 who 'took part in the taking of Cirencester by Prince Rupert, under whom he served in the King's Army'."

iv. *John Alford.*
v. *Mary.*
vi. *Catherine*, m. 1625, George Manby.
vii. *Beatrice.*
viii. *Agnes.*

5. Thomas Alford of Hall Place, of whom we have no further particulars, is presumed to have been the father of

Anne Alford of Hall Place, who was doubtless the last of this line of Alford. She died in 1679, and her will is to the following effect :—

Anne Alford of Hall Place, in the parish of Hurley in the co. of Berks, spinster, 1679. "To be buried att the Parish Church of Fawley, under that stone where my Ancestors lye buried . . . My Kinswoman Katherine Powle, daughter of Henry Powle of William-Strop* in the Co. of Gloucester. . . . . To the poore of Harley . . To the Poore of Fawley . . . . To my niece's husband George Bewes, Clerke, a ring . . . . To the said Henry Powle and to George Perin of Harley, all my estate in houses, lands, etc., upon trust for my beloved niece Elizabeth Bewes, wife of the said George Bewes of Sprotby in the County of York, Clerke, and to her children; and failing issue, to my loving Cosen Henry Powle of Williamstrop, Esquire." *P.C.C.*, 125 *King.*

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* Williamstrip, in 1670 the property of Henry Powle, Speaker of the House of Commons, is now a seat of Viscount St. Aldwyn. Henry Powle was summoned to the Heralds' Visitation of Gloucestershire in 1683-4, but did not enter his pedigree.

It seems probable that the Alfords who settled at High Wycombe, in Buckinghamshire, were cadets of the Berkshire family.

Thomas Alford was Mayor of Chipping, or High Wycombe, in Buckinghamshire, in the reign of William and Mary, and again in the reign of Anne, 1702 to 1704. He died in the latter year, and his monument, bearing the Alford arms, is in the parish church.

High Wycombe, Buckinghamshire.

Arms:—Six pears or.

"Here lyeth the body of Thomas Alford, of this town, who departed this life the 17th day of July, 1704; in the 59th year of his age, and during the second time of his Mayoralty."

George Alford, son of the above Thomas, and also of High Wycombe, became Mayor of that town in 1710, and died childless in the same year. His will is to the following effect:—

George Alford, of Cheping Wycomb (High Wycombe), Bucks, Gentleman, 1710. "To my dear Wife Isabela Alford, messuages, with stables, out-houses, orchards, gardens, where I now dwell, in Mary Street. My nephew Thomas Alford Anderton. . . . . my niece his sister. My sister Mary Anderton. . . . . My mother in law Alford, my aunt Susan Bringhurst, my brother in law John Storer, to each of them a gold ring. My said wife Isabela, Executrix". *P.C.C.*, 103 *Smith.*

This senior, or first, branch of the northern family appears to have died out. Nothing has been found to indicate that it has been continued by any cadet lines.

The Alfords of Sussex, London, and Hertfordshire.

THE connection of the Alford family with the county of Sussex is of very early date, Richard, lord of Aldford in Cheshire, in 1200, having "held the Manor of Newton in the county of Sussex"; while the *Sussex Archæological Collections* mention Adam Alford among the "armigeri" of that county who fought at Agincourt in 1415; but the line now to be traced came into the county at a later date, being descended from the second son of Thomas Alford and Jane Salisbury his wife, of Holt. See Table 1.

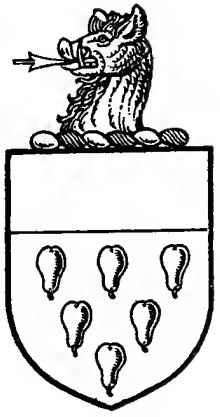
We therefore commence with :—

1. Robert Alford, of London, and of Erbistock in Flintshire, not far from Holt and Aldford (which property he purchased from his uncle Richard Alford), was the stockfather of the Sussex and Hertfordshire families. He married *Anne*, daughter of Edmund *Brydges* of Sudeley, Gloucestershire, thus forming a connection between the Alfords and that well-known and distinguished family of Brydges of Gloucester and Somerset.*

* A pedigree of "Brydges, with descente of Alforde" is given in the British Museum MS. *Harl.*, 1160, 101b, and in 1156, 49 and 49b; and it may be observed that the living of Weston Zoyland, in Somersetshire, was in the gift of the Brydges family, and was afterwards held by the Somerset Alfords, who also had a connection with Brydges through the Somerset and Gloucestershire family of Symes.

Table III.

Alford of Sussex, also of London, and of Hertfordshire.



1. Robert Alford, of London and Erbistock, nr. Holt; d. 1546; m. *Anne*, d. and co-heir of Edmund Brydges, of Sudley, Glos.

- 2. Roger Alford, of London, and of Hitcham, Bucks; d. 1580; m. *Elizabeth*, dau. of Thomas Ramsay, and widow of J. Clarke.
  - 3. Edward Alford, M.P., of London, and of Offington, Sussex; b. 1565; d. 1632; m. *Judith*, d. of Edmund Downing.
    - 4. John Alford, M.P., of Hamsey, and of Offington, Sussex; b. 1590; d. 1648; m. *Frances*, dau. of Sir Thos. Bisshopp, Kt. and Bart.
      - *Elizabeth*, m. Chas. Bickerstaff, Esq.
      - *Jane*, m. Sir Thos. Eversfield.
    - *Anne*, m. Sir Edmund Fettiplace, of Lambourne, Berkshire, who d. 1613. Had 12 sons and 7 daughters.
- Sir Francis Alford, M.P., of London, and of Lambourne, Berks, Preceptor, 1590, of Lincoln Cathedral.
  - Henry Alford, of Wokingham, 1619.
- Edward, of Aston sub Edge, Glos., 1584.
  - Launcelot Alford.
- Launcelot, of Yorke House, Twickenham, co. Surrey, 1582, m. *Anne Underwoode*.
  - Basyll Alford, "Sonne and heire".
    - *Frances*, m. Richd. Wright, of Stoke, Notts.

5. Sir Edward Alford, Kt., M.P., of Cashiobury, Herts, and of Offington, Sussex; b. 1592; d. 1653; m. (1) *Mary Morrison*, dau. of Viscount Camden, she d. 1639, s.p.; m. (2) *Ann Corbett*, who d. 1692.

- 6. John Alford, M.P., of Hamsey, and of Offington, Sussex; b. 1645; d. 1691; m. *Sarah*.
  - Edward Alford, b. 1668; d. an infant.
    - *Mary*, m. Col. Sir Thos. Wenham.
  - 7. John Alford, of Coombs, Sussex, Esq.; b. 1683; d. 1744, s.p.
  - *Elizabeth*, m. Rich. Bridger, of Hamsey Place, Sussex.
  - Edward Alford, b. 1680; d. 1697 at Broadwater.
    - *Sarah*, b. 1677; d. 1727.
  - John Alford,
    - *Frances*,
    - *Ann*,
    - all died in infancy.
- *Frances*, m. Edward Thurland, of Reigate, Esq.; d. 1694.

- William Alford, Vicar of Purton, Wilts; b. 1600; d. 1664.
  - Edward Alford, b. 1645; M.A. Queen's Coll., Oxf., 1671.
    - John, living in 1648 and 1651.
- Henry Alford, M.P. for Arundel, 1628.
  - Launcelot Alford.
  - *Elizabeth*, b. 1589; d. before 1643.
  - Robert Alford, b. 1601.

Robert Alford had four sons:—

i. *Roger*, through whom this branch continued, and of whom next (**2**).
ii. *Francis*, of whom hereafter, p. 28.
iii. *Edward*, of whom hereafter, p. 31.
iv. *Launcelot*, of whom hereafter, p. 32.

Robert Alford died in 1546, leaving his lands in Flintshire to Anne his wife. His will in abstract follows:—

Robert Alforde of London, 1546, January 14. "Hole of mynde but sicke of bodie thanks be unto Almightie God. . . . . To be buried in the Parishe Churche of St. Swithyne in London. . . . . Goodes and Cattalls" to be divided into three equal portions, one portion to his wife Anne, sole executrix. "My landes and tenements, meadowes and pastures in the parishes of Norton Madok and Tyrby Stoke [*i.e.* Erbistock], in Flintshire, bought of Richard Alford, to Anne my wife." . . . . "My brother William Sumner." . . . . "Brother William Dummer, overseer."
P.C.C., 26 *Alen.*

In the "examination of William Seth before the Lord Great Master, the Lord Privy Seal", etc., mention is made several times of "Anne Alford of London, widow of Robert Alford, and daughter of Edmund Brydges of the Chandos family".—*Cecil MSS.*, Part I, p. 83, etc.

2. Roger Alford, of London, and of Hitcham, Buckinghamshire, was the eldest son of Robert Alford and Anne Brydges. He married *Elizabeth*, daughter of Thomas *Ramsey*, esquire, and widow of John Clarke, esquire, of Hitcham, Buckinghamshire. By this marriage he had two surviving children.

i. *Edward*, of whom hereafter (**3**).
ii. *Anne*, who married Sir Edmund Fettyplace, the head of a prominent Berkshire family. She had no less than twelve sons and seven daughters.

Roger Alford entered into political life as Secretary to Sir William Cecil, afterwards Lord Burleigh, who was

made Secretary of State by Queen Elizabeth immediately after her accession in 1558, being added, with others, to the former Catholic Ministry of Queen Mary, as "known to be inclined to the Protestant Communion", and was actually called "a heretic" by his Roman Catholic opponents. We may therefore conclude that Roger Alford was of similar views, and his career must have been one of deep interest.

The *Cecil MSS.*, Part I, p. 116, give a letter, 1553, from "Roger Alforde, Gent., to Sir Wm. Cecil, concerning Mr. Cecil's Will".

Strype's Annals, iv, p. 485, refer to a letter from Roger Alford to Sir William Cecil, afterwards Lord Burleigh, respecting Lady Jane Grey. Dated 13 Nov. 1573.

"Letter from Roger Alford to the Lord Treasurer." (*Lansd. MSS.*, xviii, 26):—

" My verie good Lorde,

"You maye see I am here still to trouble you for consideration of my brother's* cause in his absence. His suit is to have the Office of Tellership of Ireland granted to him by My Lord Deputy, in consideration of his long service there, these 25 yeares past, etc., etc.

"Your Lordship's ever to command,"

Roger Alford's signature appears also in the *State Papers*, 102, Foreign, Eliz., 1564 to 1565, no. 791, p. 243.

* This was his brother Launcelot Alford, who was "Clerk of the Hanaper" in Dublin, and now became "Teller" in accordance with the request of this letter.

"Letter *(Cecil MSS.*, ii, 124*)* from Roger Alford to Lord Burghley":

"Mr. Redeman, the bringer of this, married my cousin on my mother's side. The gentleman is thought in this Shire of as good fame as any of his calling in it. He is desirous that, by your Lordship's favour, he may try out the practise, wherein I pray you to let him have your aid." Hitcham, Dec. 14, 1575.

In 1575 Queen Elizabeth "granted Stoughton Grange in Leicestershire to Roger Alford".

Roger Alford's connection with Hitcham, near Maidenhead, in Buckinghamshire, was evidently through his marriage. He retired thither, and at his death in 1580 was buried there. His monumental inscription in Hitcham Church reads thus:—

Arms:—Gules, six pears, three and three.

"Here lieth buried
Roger Alford of London,
and late of Hitcham, Esquire,
who married Elizabeth Clark, widow,
and daughter of Thomas Ramsay, Esquire.
He died the 16th of July, 1580."

The British Mus. *Addit. MSS.*, 22,583, f. 52b, contains the following "Latin Verses in memory of Roger Alford, 16th cent., by William Gager, Student of Christ Church, Oxford:—

"In obitu Rogeri Alfordi.

"Rogerus tumulo Alfordus sepelitur in isto:
Quid? tantam cohibet tantula terra virum!
Non jacet hic totus, passim bona fama vagatur
Libera, nec modica contineatur humo.
Altera pars meliorque sui jam vivit in astris,
Sic tantum corpus jam brevis urna capit."

Roger Alford was member of parliament for Bletchingley in 1558, and for Preston in 1559.

The following is a brief abstract of his will:—

Roger Alford of Hitcham, Bucks, 1580. To be buried at Hitcham. Mr. Bridge my grandfather, brother of Sir John Bridge. My wife Elizabeth. Edward Alford my sonne. My daughter Anne.

Estate at Weston, Oxford. Houses in Fleet Street in London which descended to me from my father, to Thomas Alford and his son. Launcelot my brother, Francis my brother.

P.C.C. 38 *Arundel.*

The Burghley MSS., temp. Elizabeth, 1580, *Lansd.* 109, 99, p. 217, contain the following in continuance of his will:—

"The wordes of Mr. Alfordes Wyll conveying his desire to have his sonne Edwarde Alforde placed in service with my Lorde Treasurer. Item. I wyll that my sonne Edward contynue his studie at Oxforde untill he be 17 or 18 years of age; and then I would have him sitte in Lynncoln's Inne. . . . Also my desire is when he shall growe to twentye yeares of age, that he should seek my Lorde Treasurer, my olde Mr., who I truste wyll accept hym, and notwithstanding permitte hym to contynue his studye at the Lawe."

A letter (*Lansd. MSS.*, lxxx, 209) from Elizabeth Alford, widow of Roger Alford, is preserved concerning a "cause between Matthewe Lowe, plaintiff, and Elizabeth Alford, defendant, about certaine grounde called the Marshes in the Manor and Parish of Hitcham". June 28, 1596. It bears her autograph.

Her will follows in abstract:—

Elizabeth Alford of Hitcham, Bucks., widow, 1598. "To be buried near my late husband Roger Allford, esq., in the chancel of the parish Church of Hitcham. Lands in Hitcham . . . . and Taplow . . . . Little Marlow. Sir Wm. Clarke Knt. my eldest Sonne. . . . . My sonne Edward Alford. My daughter Lady Russell . . . . my daughter Fettiplace . . . . my cousin John Alford . . . . my Godson John Alford." *P.C.C.* 103 *Lewyn.*

Before continuing the direct line of Robert Alford it will be convenient to deal with the three younger sons in succession.

Francis Alford, the second son, was born about 1530. He passed through the University of Cambridge,

taking his B.A. degree, and then migrated, in 1550, to Christ Church, Oxford, "for the study of the law". Here he took his M.A. in 1552. He was a proctor in the Vice-chancellor's court in 1554, and a "clerk of the market", which office he resigned in February 1555. He qualified for D.C.L. in October 1560, but there is no record of his admission to the degree. In 1568 and several succeeding years he had a seat in the House of Commons, sitting in 1585 and 1588 as representative for East Grinstead, co. Sussex. In the Record Office *State Papers* he is mentioned in 1570 as "of Salisbury Court, Fleet Street". In 1571 a Bill in Chancery was entered by "Francis Alford of London", concerning the conveyance of the manor of Ashton-sub-Edge, Gloucestershire, and after a long law-suit he was successful. In 1557 there is mention of the "conveyance" from Francis Alford to his brother Roger Alford of this manor of Ashton-under-Edge, Gloucestershire.

In 1581 "some lands at Burton Lazar, forming part of the Manor of Melton Mowbray, were demised to Francis Alforde". In 1587 he was a Justice of the Peace for York. In 1588, Francis Alford wrote to Lord Burghley. His kinsman John Alford solicits the Collectorship of St. Mary's York.

"Deed of sale from Francis and Edward Alford (his brother) to Nicholas Portar, of the mansion house of Ashton-sub-edge." Francis Alford is afterwards described as of Lambourne, Berks, esquire, and was trustee and supervisor of an almshouse at Lambourn in 1589, being succeeded in that office by Henry Alford of Wokingham, doubtless his son. "The hospital or almshouse at Lambourne, Berks, is for ten poor men." In 1589 it

was determined that Francis Alford, esq., his heirs and assigns, should have the management of the estates as the representatives of the founder. In 1619 Henry Alford of Wokingham* conveyed the Supervisorship to Richard Organ.

The *State Papers* of 1590, August 12, record the grant of presentation to Francis Alford of the dignity of Preceptor, with the Prebend of Empringham, in Lincoln Cathedral.

Many letters of Francis Alford, from 1573 onwards, are extant, mostly addressed to Lord Burghley.

In the *Reports of the Historical MSS. Commission*, vol. xci, p. 126, is given part of a speech in Parliament of "Sir Francis Alford" probably in 1568, with reference to an "Acte concerning Marie, daughter of James V", *i.e.* Mary Queen of Scots.

"I think her to be as vile and naughtie a creature as ever the earth bare, yet can I not see howe it can stand with the honor of England either to condemne her unheard, or to towche her in life, for that she never knew of."

Some references in the volume of *Parliamentary History* may be noted:—

8 Eliz., Oct. 30, 1568. A committee of both houses appointed to petition the Queen (Elizabeth) "That it would please your Majestie to dispose yourself to marry" included Sir William Cecil [Lord Burleigh, whose Secretary was Roger Alford], and Mr. [*i.e.*, Francis] Alford. "Her Majestie commanded the committee to make their appearance before her . . . . . and gave them a smart reproof."
Vol. i, 709.

April 14, 1571. Debate on a Bill against Licenses and Dispensations. "Mr. Alford spoke against the Bill, and endeavoured to prove that Licenses for Marriage in some cases might be needful, and that Dispensations for non-residence might upon some occasion be of great necessity", etc. Vol. i, 747.

* The Wokingham Registers unfortunately only go back to 1660.

April 19, 1571. Debate on a Bill for the Validity of Burgesses not resiant. "Mr. Alford reasoned to this effect, that above all things necessary care ought to be for the chusing and having of fit men to supply the place, that there be not imperfection. . . . . He would that none should be of that house not of 30 years of age at the least. And for the choice of townsmen, he was of his mind that Moses and Aaron should be conjoined together, and that there should be one of their own, or some gent. near them, who had knowledge of the state of the country, and the other a man learned and able to utter his mind and opinion; so that he seemed to conclude that the law should be in force for the one Burgess, and at liberty for the other." Vol. i, 754.

Strype's Annals, vol. iii, pp. 465 and 625, speak of Francis Alford, who in 1587 was J.P. for York, and is presumably to be identified with this Francis Alford. His mother was, in 1580, summoned before the Recorder of London for having mass performed in her house in Salisbury Square.

Edward Alford, the third son of Robert Alford and Ann Brydges, was afterwards of Aston-sub-Edge, in the county of Gloucester. This further connection with the West of England no doubt resulted from his mother being a member of the Brydges family already mentioned.

In 1580 Edward Alford was engaged in a law-suit, in which his brother Francis also had a part, concerning the manor of Aston-sub-Edge.

The *State Papers* for 1584 contain a deed of confirmation by Francis Alford to Edward Alford of the manor of Aston-under-Edge, in trust, for the sole use of the said Edward Alford. The manor was described as containing :—" 12 messuages, 10 cottages, a dove-house, 12 gardens, 12 orchards, 24 acres of meadow-land, 200 of

pasture, 10 of wood." Edward Alford married, and had a son :—

Launcelot Alford, apparently died young.

Launcelot Alford, the fourth son of Robert Alford (**1**) and Ann Brydges, was described later as of York House, Twickenham, Surrey. In 1548 he was appointed "Clerk of the Hanaper" in Dublin. There is mention of him in 1560 as still holding this office. In 1573 the superior post known as the "Tellership" became vacant, "a very lucrative sinecure office" in the gift of the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, and Roger Alford (his brother) wrote to Lord Burghley, then Lord Treasurer, whose secretary he was, asking him to obtain the appointment for Launcelot. (See letter, *ante*, p. 26.) The application was successful, and he held the office for some years.

In 1582 Launcelot Alford obtained a twenty-one years lease of that well-known estate called "Yorke House" at Twickenham in the county of Surrey. "An historic mansion, one of the most beautiful old seats on the banks of the Thames, built of red brick, with high-pitched roof, in the 16th century. It stands in well-timbered grounds of about 10 acres. It was the residence of James II while Duke of York, and his daughters, afterwards Queen Mary and Queen Anne, were born in the house." Here he lived after his retirement from official life in Ireland.

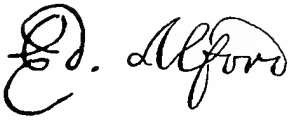
Launcelot Alford married *Anne Underwoode*, and had two children :—

i. "*Basyll Alford*, sonne and heire" of whom no further record is found.
ii. *Francys*, who married Richard Wright of Stoke, Nottinghamshire.

We now return to the family of Roger Alford (**2**) and Elizabeth Ramsay :—

3. Edward Alford (senior), of London, and afterwards of Offington, county Sussex, Esquire, was the only surviving son of Roger Alford of London and Hitcham. He was born in 1565, and his matriculation at Trinity College, Oxford, is recorded in 1581, at the age of 16. In accordance with the instructions of his father's will (*ante*, p, 28) he studied for the law, and entered at Lincoln's Inn.

The British Museum *Add. MSS.* (12,503) contain a letter from Edward Alford, dated 1593, to Sir Julius Cæsar. His autograph is appended :—



Edward Alford entered Parliament in 1603, and pursued a somewhat notable political career, as the following notices testify :—" 1 James I, 1603. New House of Commons. Member for Colchester : Edward Alford, Esq." A similar entry appears in the records for 18 James I, 1620.

The following notes are taken from *Parliamentary History*, March 16, 1620. "Proceedings relative to the Grievances." "Mr. Alford holdeth it a preposterous thing to be called as witnesses in a business where we have before been Judges."—*Vol. i*, 1207.

Nov. 27, 1621. "Mr. Alford saith that since the Powder Treason the Papists say there hath been no practice against the King ; and he wisheth that now, on our loose with Spain, those who are about the King should look well that he be not endangered."—*Vol. i*, 1312.

In Gardiner's *History of England* we find some references to Edward Alford, thus :—

General Index, p. 228 :—" Edward Alford applauds Coke's attack

on the monopolies: asks (1621) for freedom of speech. Is made Sheriff (1625) to prevent his appearance in Parliament."

"Great was the joy in the House. 'This,' said Alford, an old Member who had represented Colchester ever since the death of Elizabeth—'this is the first Parliament that ever I saw Councillors of State have such care for the State."—*Vol. iv*, p. 41.

1626. "Charles, appealing to the people for a free gift, purified the Commission of the Peace by the dismissal of those persons who were likely to oppose the measure. Eliot and Phelips, Seymour and Alford, ceased to bear the honours of Justice of the Peace in their respective Counties."—*Vol. vi*, p. 125.

Mr. Edward Alford continued to represent Colchester in Parliament for two more years, and then sat for Steyning, Sussex, in 1628, but it was at this time, and doubtless to a great extent in consequence of the above events, that he retired to the mansion and estate of Offington, in the parish of Broadwater, Sussex, near the modern town of Worthing. The family had an ancient connection with that County (see *ante*, p. 23), but this manor had been bought by the Alfords from the West family (now represented by Earl De la Warr), in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, and remained in the Alford family till 1726.

"Offington House, formerly the seat of the Lords De la Warr, is on the north-west side of the parish of Broadwater, surrounded by a small park containing venerable trees. What was its extent formerly may be seen by the following enumeration of its apartments:—

My Lord's bedchamber,
The gallery chamber,
The inner gallery, with
The closet next the garden,
The gallery at my Lord's chamber-door,
The genteel women's chamber,
My Lady's chamber,
The great chamber,
The middle chamber,
The hall, the chapel,
The black parler,

The tower chamber,
The nœrcerye,
The chamber over the butterye,
The parler over the seller," etc., etc.

Gardiner's *History of England* proves the continuance of Edward Alford's political career.

1628. "The discussion in Committee was opened by an appeal from Alford to the lawyers present to inform him what benefits would accrue by the confirmation of the Statutes without explanation."—*Vol. vi*, p. 272.

From Guizot's *History of the English Revolution of 1640*, p. 26, we find some further information as to his career in Parliament :—

May 8th, 1628. "The House drew up the famous Bill 'The Petition of Rights,' adopted it, and transmitted it to the Upper House for its assent." The King objected, "addressing advice upon advice to the Peers, to the Commons message upon message." "The perplexity of the Peers was great," but "the Bill was adopted with this addition:—'We humbly present this petition to your Majesty, not only with a care of preserving our own liberties, but with due regard to leave entire that Sovereign Power wherewith your Majesty is trusted for the protection, safety, and happiness of your people." May 17. "When the Bill thus amended came back to the Commons :—'Let us look into the Records' said Mr. Alford, 'and see what they are: what is Sovereign Power? Bodin saith that it is free from any conditions. By this we shall acknowledge a regal, as well as a legal, power. Let us give that to the King the Law gives him, and no more.'"

From the Report of the *Hist. MSS. Commission*, House of Commons, June 21, 1628 :—

"When his Bill was passed Sir Edmund did by the Speaker present his hearty thanks to the House for that favour in passing his Bill. Mr. Alford stood up and said this custom of giving thanks had been omitted ever since the passage of a Bill for the old Lord Burghley, and he held it due to the House, for what have these Lords so deserved of the Commonwealth that we should intermit the public affairs of the State to intend their private Bills."

Mr. Edward Alford died in 1632, at the age of 67. His Will is appended :—

Edward Alford of Offington, co. Sussex, Esquire, 1632. To be buried in the chancel of Hamsey Church. "To Elizabeth my daughter my manors of Offington and Hamsey in the co. of Sussex." Lands at Broadwater (the ancient parish of Worthing), Bramber, and Gowing. Tenement in All Hallows, Steining, London. To my son William the rectory of Titherington in the co. of Glos^{r}, with lands, tenements, and the right of patronage to the vicarage. Lands in Bilston, Cornwall. Launcelott Alford, sonne of Edward. "My dear sister Lady Fettiplace . . . . to my sonne John Alford my guilt bason and ewer, and two silver potts with my Armes upon them which wear my father's . . . . to Jane Alford my grandchild a dozen guilt spoons . . . . to Elizabeth Alford my grandchild my silver bason and ewer . . . . My lovinge wife Judith, and my daughter Elisabeth, executors." *P.C.C. 2 Audeley.*

He was buried in the Chancel of Hamsey Church, near Lewes, co. Sussex, the manor of Hamsey being also in his possession, and apparently his residence in later days.

When about 25 years of age he had married *Judith*, daughter of Edmund *Downing* of Suffolk, esquire, by whom he had six sons :—

i. *John Alford*, of whom next (**4**).
ii. *Sir Edward Alford*, of whom hereafter (**5**).
iii. *William Alford*, of whom hereafter ~~(**6**)~~. page 42
iv. *Henry Alford*, who became Member for Arundel in 1628.
v. *Robert Alford*, who was admitted at Lincoln's Inn, Nov. 20th, 1620.
vi. *Launcelot Alford*, of whom no further record is found.

The eldest son of Edward Alford and Judith Downing his wife was :—

4. John Alford (senior), of Hamsey and Offington in the county of Sussex, esquire, was born in 1590, and the *Alumni Oxonienses* records his matriculation at St. John's College, Oxford, in 1606, at the age of 16, describing him as "John Alford of London, armiger." John Alford obtained a seat in the House of Commons, sitting in

1625 and 1640 for New Shoreham, co. Sussex. The manors of Hamsey and Offington both came into his possession. "John Alford, owner of the manor of Hamsey, settled it on his wife Frances for life, with remainder to his brother Sir Edward Alford for life, and his sons in entail." The *County History of Kent* records that the manor of Wittersham, Kent, was sold to Sir Thomas Bishopp, whose daughter carried it in marriage to Mr. Alford. John Alford died two days after making the settlement, and was buried at Broadwater, where a monument in the South Transept Chapel was erected to his memory.

"Here lyeth the body of the truly honourable and religious John Alford of Offington, Esquire, who having finished his career, exchanged mortality for glory, Jan. 5, 1648. Æt. 59.

"Hee left issue ye noble Lady Jane Eversfield, and the virtuous gentele woman Mrs. Elizabeth Alford."

"Here lyeth the body of Frances, the wife of John Alford of Offington, Esquire, who finding no comfort in life after the decease of her husband, died Oct. 23, 1659. Ætatis suæ 63."

His widow outlived him for eleven years. The Wills of both are appended :—

John Alford of Offington, co. Sussex. 1649. To be buried at Broadwater. "All my goods and chattels and real estate to my dear and very much deserving wife Frances Alford. . . . . My house of Hamsey in the said county . . . . My daughter Jane Eversfield . . . . My daughter Elizabeth Alford . . . . My brother Sir Edward Alford . . . . My brothers Launcelot and William . . . . To John Alford son of William, my godson . . . . Unto John Fettiplace . . . . My brother in law Henry Bishopp . . . . Lands, tenements, to Elizabeth Alford her heires, and for want of issue to Sir Edward Alford. My wife Frances sole executrix."

P.C.C. 7 Fairfax.

Frances Alford, widow, of Surrey, 1659. "To be buried neare my deare husband in the Parishe Church of Broadwater . . . . To my daughter Elizabeth all my household goods and plate . . . . To my loving sister Lady Gresham my greate diamond ring and greate

Bible . . . . My brother Mr. Henry Bishopp. My grandsonne Mr. John Eversfield . . . . To my god-daughter Mrs. Francis Alford my greate silver tankard . . . To the poore of Hamsey . . . My daughter Elizabeth Alford sole executrix."* *P.C.C.* 520 *Pell.*

About 1618, John Alford had married *Frances*, daughter of Sir Thomas *Bisshopp*, knight and baronet, of Parham, in the county of Sussex, by whom he had two daughters :—

i. *Elizabeth*, born 1620, who married Mr. Bickerstaff, and was subsequently her mother's executrix.
ii. *Jane*, who married Sir Thomas Eversfield, and died, leaving a son, Mr. John Eversfield, who became a legatee under her mother's will.

The second son of Edward Alford (senior) and Judith Downing his wife, was :—

5. Sir Edward Alford, of Cassiobury Park, near Watford, Herts, and of Offington House, Sussex, knight. He was born in 1592, and his matriculation at Christ Church, Oxford, at the age of 20, is recorded in 1612. While his father was occupied with his Parliamentary and public duties in London and Essex, Edward Alford (junior) appears to have lived at Offington, and to have made himself useful in his native county of Sussex, being High Sheriff of Surrey and Sussex in 1624.

* Testator was widow of John Alford of Offington, whose Will appears above. Her sister Lady Gresham, widow of Sir John Gresham of Titsey Place, Surrey, by her Will, dated 1664 (Surrey Wills), gave "Unto my nece Mrs. Bickerstafe a ringe with a diamonde which my sister Allford, her mother, gave me. Unto her husband Mr. Charles Bickerstafe the grete Bibell my sister Allford gave me. Unto their daughter Elizabeth, my god-daughter, four hundred ourent (orient) pearles out of my best chayne. Unto Mr. John Eversfield, my godson, my wach in a playne silver case."

The *State Papers* of this time contain these three allusions to him :—

1627. "The King commissioned Edward Alford, with others, to use martial law to soldiers billeted in co. Sussex."

"Edward Alford complains against Freeman of Billinghurst, co. Sussex, for not duly maintaining a watch at a beacon."

1628. "Edward Alford of Offington renders some accounts of prize-ships." (War with France.)

The *Historical MSS. Commission* gives, June 24, 1628, "Letter from Edward Alford, West Dean, near Chichester, to Sir John Coke, Secretary of State."—"Upon two letters from the Lords of the Council for billeting 2,000 soldiers near Portsmouth, when he gave the Sessors their charge lately, they alleged that the soldiers were not taken off, nor the money paid for the billeting of them, nor for impress coats and conduct-money disbursed long since. We have no hope the country will receive any more. There are 200 soldiers already billeted in the city of Chichester, between which city and Havant is but seven miles distance; and between, but one poor town and two or three hamlets already full freight with soldiers."

"Sir John Coke's reply to Mr. Edward Alford" (afterwards Sir Edward), speaks of "3,425 soldiers in that district" and 3*s.* 6*d.* per week each man billet money." "I doubt not but you will give your best assistance to remove needless jealousies, and expedite the business, according to your accustomed diligence and zeal for the public good."

In 1628 Edward Alford became M.P. for Steyning, co. Sussex, and in 1632 was knighted by King Charles the First. In that year his father, Edward Alford, senior, died, and the estates of Hamsey and Offington passed to John Alford, Sir Edward's eldest brother.

At the close of the same year Sir Edward Alford married. The *Gloucestershire Visitation* (Harleian Society) records the marriage of "Sir Edward Alford, second son of Edward Alford, co. Sussex, with Mary, widow of Sir Charles Morrison (whom she married at Lowleyton, Essex, 3 December 1606), of Cashiobury, Herts, knight

and baronet." She then, however, was the widow of Sir John Cooper, bart., her second husband.

In *London Marriage Licences* is recorded: "Alford, Sir Edward, of Offington, Sussex, knight, bachelor, about 40, and *Mary Cooper* of Cashiobury, Herts, widow of Sir John Cooper [who died 23 March 1631], late of St. Giles, co. Dorset. Dec. 11, 1632." Lady Mary Alford was the youngest daughter of Baptist Hicks the 1st Viscount Camden. She had no children by this, her third, marriage, and died seven years later, in 1639, and was buried "in the Isle of Watford parish church".

In 1640 Sir Edward Alford was in Parliament, sitting for Arundel, Sussex. He took part in the struggle between the King and Commons, and "suffered greatly for his loyalty".

The *Sussex Archæological Collections*, xiii, p. 81, etc., give the following notes :—

"Sir Edward Alford, knight, M.P. for Arundel 1640, joined the King. Thomas [?] Alford represented Lewes in 1585; Henry Alford represented Arundel in 1628, and his brother Edward in 1640. Sir Edward was on the King's side in the Civil War, and being in the Capitulation of Exeter in 1649, was severely fined by the Commonwealth. The amount of the fine for Offington alone was £1,503."

It is noticeable that Sir Edward had only just succeeded to the Offington estates, on the death of his brother, John Alford.

The Commissioners for Ecclesiastical Benefices, in 1650, found that the Vicar of Watford, Hertfordshire, had a donation of £50 per annum, the gift of Lady Alford, and then paid by Sir Edward Alford, arising out of lands in the county of Gloucester.

"Sir Edward Alford of Offington, in the county of Sussex, knight. Petition to Commissioners, with signature, May 28, 1651. His delinquency that he was one of the members of the hon'ble house of Com'ons, that he deserted the Parliament and went to Oxford and sat in the Assembly there when the Parliament were voted Traytors. That he returned out of the King's Quarters the 25th November 1645. That he is seized of lands and messuages in Tewkeshury in the county of Gloster, of yearly value of £430, for which his fine is £1,075. The Rectory of Cheltenham and Charlton in the county of Gloster, of the yearly value of £75, for which his fine is £189. Of the manor of Ilmington in the county of Warwick, yearly value £333; fine £852. Also lands at Whitbury in the county of Wilts, yearly value £194, fine £970. King's Langley Park, Hertford, fine £250. The Mannor of Pindast in the Parishe of Waltham Crosse, yearly value £200, fine £500. Soe that his whole fine is £3,836." *Royalist Composition Papers*, 2nd series, iii, pp. 291-350.

This document also mentions Mrs. Elizabeth Alford, his niece; Lancelot Alford; Elizabeth Alford, his sister, deceased; his brother, John Alford, esquire, deceased; Mrs. Frances Alford, deceased; John Alford, son of William Alford; and Lady Alford of Cashiobury, deceased.

Sir Edward Alford also had an interest in Somersetshire, being lord of the manor of Stanton Drew in that county; and his name is recorded as appearing at the Taunton Sessions, 10 Charles I, in a case of poaching on his manor.

Just as these troublous times were commencing Sir Edward married a second time, his wife being *Ann*, daughter of Dr. *Corbett*, Chancellor of Norwich. By this marriage he had two children:—

i. *John Alford*, of whom hereafter (**6**).
ii. *Frances Alford*, who married Edward Thurland, of Reigate, Esq., and died in 1694.

Sir Edward Alford died intestate in 1653, aged 61, leaving a son John his heir; and letters of administration were granted to his widow, Dame Ann Alford, 24 Sept. 1653.

Lady Alford outlived Sir Edward nearly forty years, and, dying in 1692, was buried at Broadwater, where is a Brass in the Chancel floor:—

"Here lyeth the bodye of
Anne, wife of Sir Edward Alford, Knight;
Who departed this life
Feb: ye 4th, Ano. 1692,
Aged 74 yeares."

William Alford, afterwards vicar of Purton, Wiltshire, was a younger son of Mr. Edward Alford, senior, of Offington, Sussex, and of Judith his wife. He was born in 1600, and matriculated at St. Mary Hall, Oxford, in 1617, when he is described as "armiger of Sussex"; he died in 1664. William Alford is mentioned in Sir Orlando Bridgman's *Judgments in the Common Pleas*, 1660-67, as a younger brother of John and Sir Edward Alford. He was instituted to the vicarage of Purton in 1629.

He married and had issue:—

i. *Edward Alford*, born in 1645. The *Alumni Oxonienses* records this son's matriculation at Queen's College, Oxford, in 1664, at the age of 19, "fil. Guliel. Alford, Purton, Wilts, cler.". He took his B.A. in 1668, and his M.A. in 1671.

ii. *John Alford*, a legatee under the Will of his uncle, John Alford of Offington, who died in 1648, in which Will he is referred to as his "Godson". He is also mentioned in the above-recited *Composition Papers* of his uncle, Sir Edward Alford, in 1651.

We now return to the family of Sir Edward Alford:—

6. John Alford of Hamsey and of Offington, co. Sussex, esquire, was the son of Sir Edward Alford by his second marriage with Ann Corbett. He was born about 1645. The *Alumni Oxonienses* gives the following:—"Alford, John, fil. Edward of Offington, Equitis. Christ Church. Matric: 1664, age 17, of Offington." He lost his father when only eight years old, and succeeded to the Sussex estates on reaching the age of 21. He married in the following year, and had nine children, of whom four died in infancy and two others at later ages, as shown in the pedigree, Table III. The three who survived were:—

i. *Mary*, born in 1669, who, in 1697, married Colonel Sir Thomas Wenham.
ii. *Elizabeth*, born in 1671, who married Richard Bridger, of Hamsey Place, near Lewes.
iii. *John*, of whom next (**7**).

In 1679, at the age of 34, John Alford obtained a seat in Parliament, sitting as representative for Midhurst, Sussex, from 1679 to 1681, and for Bramber from 1688 to 1689. He died at Offington, and was buried at Broadwater, in 1691, at the early age of 44. His widow, Sarah Alford, lived till 1737, when she died at the age of 86. Her monumental inscription, upon a flat stone in the church at Broadwater, is:—

"In memory of John Alford, Esquire, who died
May 16, 1691, aged 44.
Here also are deposited the remains of
Mrs. Sarah Alford
Who lived his wife 23 years, and his widow 46.
She departed this life Jan. 22nd, in the 86th year of her age,
and our Blessed Lord 1737."

Also at Broadwater, are the following inscriptions to their children:—

"Edward Alford, Esquire,
son of John Alford, Esquire, of Offington;
ob: January 18, 1697; æt: 17."

"Mrs. Sarah Alford,
daughter of John Alford, Esquire,
late of Offington.
Died Feb: 3, 1727. Aged 50."

7. John Alford, of Coombe, co. Sussex, Esq., was the youngest and only surviving son of John Alford of Offington and Sarah his wife. He was born in 1683, and matriculated at New College, Oxford, in 1701, being described as "Son of John Alford of Offington, Armiger". Desiring to follow in the steps of his father, grand-father, and great-grand-father, he endeavoured to enter Parliament, but apparently failed to obtain a seat. There is no record of his marriage, and in 1744, at the age of 61, he died, leaving neither widow nor child.

In Broadwater Church is a mural monument in the north transept:—

"To the memory of | John Alford, esquire, | who died 1744, the last of | the ancient family of that name | heretofore of Offington in this Parish; | whose remains, together with those | of his ancestors and kindred, | lie buried in this chancel."

The direct line of the Sussex Alfords thus came to an end, as his monumental inscription records, and the Sussex property passed away from the family. "The manor of Hamsey (Coombe Place), near Lewes, was devised by John Alford, esq., to John Wenham", son of his sister Mary, who married Sir Thomas Wenham. Some part of the property also passed to the Bridgers.

The following may be here noted:—

Major John Alford is mentioned several times in the year 1645. His connection with Berkhampstead, in Hertfordshire, would lead one to suppose that he belonged to this second, or Sussex, branch of the family. While he was noted as a Parliamentary soldier, Sir Edward, as we have seen, was severely fined as a Royalist.

"Wednesday, September 10, 1645. At two o'clock this morning the signal was given to storm the City. The horse were commanded by Major Alford, and within the line met a party of the Royal Horse, whom they forced to retreat, mortally wounding Colonel Taylor, and taking several prisoners."—Evans' *History of Bristol*, pp. 203, 204.

"In 1650 Major John Alford held Crown lands on an unexpired lease at Berkhampstead."—Clutterbuck's *County of Hertford.*

"Major John Alford, a Parliamentary Soldier, held Berkhampstead Place, Herts, under a lease in 1656. Berkhampstead House, Manor, or Castle, was leased by King James to the family of Morays, or Murrays. The Great Park had contained 1252 acres. About the time of King Charles the Murrays left, and the unexpired term of nine years was assigned to Major John Alford in February, 1650. The Estate and Manor of Berkhampstead are now held by Lord Brownlow under the Duchy of Cornwall."—*Public Record Office Papers.*

The Cromwell Library at Naseby contains a small quarto illustrated tract, not to be found in the British Museum, published in London 1651, entitled *A Narration of the Proceedings of this present Parliament and their Armies*, etc. Page 19 begins:—"A full narrative of the late dangerous designe against the State, written with Master Love's owne hand, whereby he setteth downe the severall meetings and secret actings with Major Alford, Colonel Barton and others."

An Essex connection of the family is apparent, for the will of Roger Alford of Chelmsford, 1517, given *ante*, p. 13, shows that the family were then of some position in the county. A writ to the Sheriff of Essex, 7th Elizabeth, 1565, mentions John Alford of Southweld; also Stephen and Thomas Alford of Felstead.

In the Visitation of Essex in 1612 we find:—Arms (quartered with Raynsford)—Gules, a cross flory argent, Alford. And elsewhere the record of the marriage of an Alford with Robert Kempe of Finchingfield. In

1662 Theophilus Alford, son of John Alford of Ashton, Devonshire, became vicar of South Weald, and his son, John Alford, described as of Brentwood, Essex, matriculated at Trinity College, Oxford, in 1675, aged 16. Edward Alford, son of Roger Alford, was M.P. 1603 to 1628 for Colchester.

The records of the Monoux Foundation School at Walthamstow, in Essex, give some interesting particulars concerning the Alford family. "Robert Alford, (the father of Roger) was one of the original devisees in Sir George Monoux's Will", the Governorship and Trusteeship of the Grammar School which he founded at Walthamstow thus coming into the hands of the Alfords. In 1599 "Edward Alford, grandson of the devisee, and son of Roger, being in possession of the premises in conjunction with Elizabeth Alford, widow (of Roger) and Edmund Fettiplace (their son-in-law) became himself a Benefactor to the Charity", his benefaction being still known as "Alford's Gift". The Alford property on which the charges for this Charity were made was in the parish of All Hallows Staining, in London. It was reported formally in 1636 "that Schoolmasters had been appointed by the Alfords who had been unable to teach the Latin tongue". An "inquisition" was held, and a new "decree" made by a Commissioner in 1658.

We may here record the following entries in the Registers of St. Dunstan's in the West, London :—

1589, Feb. 10, Elizabeth, daughter of Edward Alford, gentleman, baptized.

1592, Jan. 7, Anne, daughter of Cuthbert Alforde, baptized.

1601, June 14, Robert, son of Edward Alford, gentleman, baptized.

The Alfords of Hereford, London, and Clarendon Park.

The exact descent of this family is not clear, but it apparently formed the third branch of the Northern stock. The founder of this branch was Thomas Alford, presumably the youngest son of Thomas and Jane Alford, of Holt (see Table 1). Of him we have these particulars :—

The Public Record Office *Ancient Deeds*, Hereford, B. 530, mentions a "Bond by Walter Waters, rector of Bishopstone, co. Hereford, and Thomas Alfford, of Brownshyll, in the said county, 20 Henry VIII."

1. Thomas Alford was appointed "Gentleman Usher of the King's Chamber" to Henry VIII. The British Museum *Royal MSS.* contain the following interesting record concerning him :—

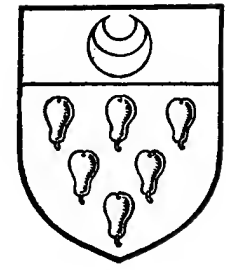
"Clothes and Jewells delivered to Thomas Alford, 16 November, 20 Henry VII. A purple damask gowne with gold fringe, with 130 diamonds set in golden buttons, and 131 flowers of gold and pearls on the guarde of the gowne. A purple velvet doublet with 54 rubies and gold buttons and points", etc., etc.

Thomas Alford was afterwards appointed "Spigurnel", or "Sealer and Signer in Chancery", in which capacity he is mentioned many times in the Record Office *State Papers* of the years 1533 and 1534. Vol. vi, 578 (25), May 1533, records a "Grant to Thomas Alford to be Keeper of the New Park, near Westminster, with the custody of the King's Lodges in the same Park; and Receiver of the Rents of the Lands near Charyng crosse,

Table IV.

Alford of Hereford, Coventry and Norton, etc.

PRESUMABLY THE THIRD BRANCH OF THE NORTHERN STOCK.



1. Thomas Alford, presumed to be the son of Thomas Alford, of Holt, later of co. Hereford, 1505; and London; d. 1535.

2. John Alford, of Cawther Hill, co. Hereford; d. 1614; (Will 19); m. *Elizabeth*.

- William Alford, m. *Joyce*.
  - James Alford, m. *Catherine*.
    - *Joan*.
    - *Alice*.
  - Philip Alford.
    - John Alford.
      - *Margaret*.
        - *Joyce*.
- 3. Thomas Alford, of Coventry, gent.; d. 1616; (Will 21); m. *Alice Phelps* of Tewkesbury, who d. 1617 (Will 22).
  - John Alford, m. *Margaret*.
    - Thomas Alford.
      - William Alford.
        - John Alford, of Webley.
  - 4. John Alford, of London, mercer; afterwards of Clarendon Park, Salisbury; d. 1678 (Will 61); m. *Judith Claxton*.
    - 5. Edward Alford, b. 1632; *a quo* presumably.
      - John Alford, of London, 1689.
      - Charles Alford, of the West Indies, from 1679 to 1689.
    - *Johanna*, m. John Clarke.
    - Others.
  - Thomas Alford, Vicar of Daventry, 1635; m. *Alice Hope*.
  - *Johanna*, m. Ed. Farmer.
    - *Anne*, m. Benj. Wheate.
      - *Mary*, m. Benj. Farmer.
  - *Sarah*, m. John Needham.
  - *Hope*, d. 1636 unm.; bur. at Drayton, Leicestershire.
- *Alice*, m. Pritchard.
  - *Margaret*.
- Richard Alford, of Norton Canon; d. 1634 (Will 28).

lately acquired by the King from the Abbot and Convent of Westminster". Also vol. vii, 1601 (2), December 1534, "Grant in Fee to Thomas Alford of lands called Brookys at Ipswich, Suffolk; Westminster, Dec. 2nd."

A circumstance of especial interest is that he was a witness to the "Sentence given concerning the validity of the King's Marriage with Anne Boleyn: present, Thomas Cromwell, Thomas Legh, LL.D., and Thomas Alford". Vol. vi, 737 (7). He died at a comparatively early age, in 1535, for a "Grant" of that year mentions "Thomas Alford, deceased, Signer or Sealer in Chancery."

His son appears to have been :—

2. John Alford, of Cawther Hill, co. Hereford. His will is to the following effect :—

John Allford of Cawtherhill, co. Hereford, 1614. "To be buried in the Church of Norton. Bequest to the Church of Norton. "Elizabeth my wife . . . . William my sonne . . . . Alice my daughter . . . . My sonne Thomas' daughters . . . . John Allford my sonne . . . Thomas his sonne . . . . John Allford, sonne of my sonne John of Webley." "My best mare . . . my best horse . . . . my goode mare . . . . my yearlinge colte." My son Richard. Elizabeth Meredith my son Richard's wife's daughter. My daughter Margaret's two sons John and James. Thomas, son of my son Thomas. My son William, Executor." *P.C.C.* 91 *Lawe.*

John Alford married *Elizabeth* and had issue :—

i. *William Alford* (see Table iv).
ii. *Thomas Alford*, of whom next (**3**).
iii. *John Alford* (see Table iv).
iv. *Alice*, m. Pritchard.
v. *Margaret.*
vi. *Richard Alford* of Norton Cannon, Hereford, whose will was proved in 1634;—"To be buried at Norton. . . . Phillipp the son of William Alforde. . . . James, John, Margaret and Joyce, children of the said Wm. Alforde. . . . John Alforde the younger, of Welles. . . . Joan the daughter of James and

Catherine. . . . Her sister Alice. . . Alice Pritchard my sister. . . . To my brother William my house at Norton. . . . James his son. . . . My sister in law Joyce Alforde. . . . . Margaret Alforde my sister in lawe. . . . . John Alforde and William my brothers. . . . . Maria Alforde. . . . . Margaret the younger. . . . . Joyce the younger. . . . . Mary Alforde. . . . John Alford my brother, Wm. his sonne. . . . Philip Alford, James Alford, John my brother."
P.C.C. 82 *Seager.*

3. Thomas Alford, of Coventry, gentleman, was the second son of John Alford and Elizabeth his wife. He died 1616, and his will is to the following effect:—

Thomas Alford of Coventrie, 1616. "To my wife Alice my nowe dwellinge house in Well Street in the citie of Coventrie, with the stable and gardens, also my house called the Croft in Bishopgate Street, and after her decease to my sonne John Allford, and for lack of issue to my sonne Thomas Allford (a minor) . . . . To my wife all my plate . . . . My daughters Johanna, Anne, Mary, Sara, Hope, my five daughters . . . . To my daughter in lawe Alice Hope a piece of plate." "If any of my sonnes and daughters doe take riotous and ungodly courses, and will not be ruled by the counsel of their mother, that stubborn and disobedient child shall have no more than £20." *P.C.C.* 89 *Cope.*

He married *Alice Phelps*, of Tewkesbury, whose will here follows:—

Alicia Allford of Coventrie, widow, 1617. Bequest "to poore of Tewkesbury where I was borne . . . . all my lands at Tewkesbury to Alice Stawell my daughter". Edward Stawell her husband. Land in St. Giles in the County of Cornwall. "To my sonne John Allford . . . . to Thomas Allford my sonne . . . . to my five daughters." *P.C.C.* 51 *Weldon.*

Their children were:—

i. *John Alford*, of whom next (4).
ii. *Thomas Alford.* He was educated at Emmanuel College, Cambridge. "The Rev. Thomas Alford was Minister of Daventry 1635 to 1637. The Registers for the year ending Lady-Day 1635 were signed by his predecessor; those for the year ending Lady-Day 1636 by himself; and those for 1637 by his successor. His death does not appear in the Register of Burials,

probably therefore he resigned." He married *Alice Hope.* "There are no entries in the Registers as to any members of his family."

iii. *Johanna*, m. Edward Farmer.
iv. *Anne*, m. Benjamin Wheate.
v. *Mary*, m. Benjamin Farmer.
vi. *Sarah*, m. John Needham.
vii. *Hope*, whose inscription is at Drayton, in Leicestershire, as below:—

Arms:—Gules, six pears.

"Here lyeth the body of
Hope Alford,
the youngest daughter of
Thomas Alford, Esquire,
who dyed 25 November 1636,
anno ætat: suæ 23."

4. John Alford, of London, mercer, entered his pedigree in the *Visitation of London*, 1634. He is described as descended from the old Alford family of Cheshire, and the Heralds confirmed to him the arms in the same year. He became a man of considerable wealth and importance, and lived in later life at Clarendon Park, Wiltshire, "an ancient palace and domain two miles south-east of Salisbury, once the seat of the Earl of Pembroke".

"The Manor belonged to the Crown, and was granted by Charles II to the Duke of Albermarle, from whom it passed to the Earl of Bath. The magnificent estate of Clarendon Park extends over 4,000 acres. There is an excellent Manor House, with a remarkably picturesque Park of 300 acres, which is richly timbered, and the Lake in it is the noted resort of wild-fowl. Here the famous Constitutions of Clarendon were signed in the 12th century. Here also Edward III and his royal prisoners, the Kings of France and Scotland, passed the summer months in 1357. This Estate was held in the later part of the seventeenth century by John Alford."

The marriage of his daughter is recorded in the *Harleian Visitations.* Also *London Marriage Licences*—

"John Clarke, of London, bachelor, 33, and Johanna Alford, spinster, 22, daughter of John Alford, of Clarendon Park, county Wilts, gent., 15 September, 1663."

John Alford married *Judith Claxton*, and besides the above daughter had a son *Edward Alford*, and other children. He died in 1678 at Clarendon Park, and was buried at Wilton. His will here follows :—

John Alford of Clarendon Park in the County of Wilts, Gent., 1678, "to be buried on the north side of Wilton Churchyard . . . . My sister Tilsley . . . . . my sonne in law John Clarke . . . . . my daughter Johanna his wife . . . . . their children . . . . . Unto all the rest of my children . . . . . All the rest of my estate unto Judith my loving wife, whom I make sole Executor."

P.C.C. 10 *Reeve.*

5. Edward Alford, son of John Alford and Judith his wife, was born in 1632, and appears to have been the father of *John Alford* and *Charles Alford.*

In the British Museum, *Add. MSS.* 33,084, f. 102, is this letter, dated 1689, from John Alford to the Hon. Thomas Pelham :—

"Good Sir, The Bearer is my brother, Mr. Charles Alford, whom you were pleased to allow the favor and liberty to wayte on you. He is going shortly into the Barbadoes, where he hath lived five yeares, and in Antigua five yeares more. He is a good accountant and writes a good hand, and will acquaint you what places are in the power of the Commissioners of the Customes to dispose off in that Island. If it does lye in your way to countenance him in some preferment, it will be owned as a very friendly obligation to

"Sir, your most humble servant,

"London, July ye 24th, 1689."

(Crest on seal, a Boar's head.)

Another letter from John Alford to Mr. Pelham, *Add. MSS.* 33,084, f. 65, is of less interest.

Foster's *Alumni Oxonienses* records the matriculation of "Walter Alforde of county Worcester, at Exeter College in 1581, age 18". Also that of "Robert Alford of London, at Christ Church in 1595, age 28; M.A., 1607", who became vicar of Downe Ampney, Gloucestershire, in 1603, and died in 1653.

The following, perhaps, were of this family:—

Edward Alford died in 1701 at Woolwich. His monument, bearing the Alford arms—Six pears, three and three, as for Berks and Bucks—was in the chancel of the parish church.

Edward Alford, who died in 1754 at Kensington, was buried in the chancel of that parish church, since rebuilt. A flat stone in the floor of the chancel marked his grave. In the same year, Mrs. Alford, no doubt his widow, gave a benefaction of £100 to the schools of that parish.

As might be expected, some connection with London is found in each branch of the Alford family, and is distinctly apparent here. The Appendix contains several Wills of Alfords settled in London, and these, together with the following extracts from *London Registers* and *London Marriage Licences*, give information worth recording, although not necessarily belonging to this Branch.

Grove's *Dictionary of Music and Musicians*, p. 53, mentions "John Alford, a lutenist in London." He published there in 1568 *A Briefe and Easye Instruction unto the Lute.*

In 1634 William Alford, a member of the Skinners' Company, with Mary his wife, left London for America, and settled in Salem, Mass., U.S.A. From them descended one branch of the present Alford family in New England (see American notes later).

"Theophilus Alford was vicar of St. Stephen's, Coleman Street, London; and afterwards, 1661, of Southweld" (see Devon notes).

In 1711 the marriage is recorded at Alverstoke, Hants, of Rebecca Alford to Francis Tooley, surgeon.

In 1793, also at Alverstoke, that of Charity Alford to Richard Haskell, Commander of the "Duke of Portland".

ST. PETER'S REGISTERS, CORNHILL (LONDON).

1688, Jan. 3. Benjamin, son of Thomas and Ann Alford, baptized.
1689, Feb. 13. John, son of Thomas and Ann Alford, baptized.
1691, Aug. 4. James, son of Thomas and Ann Alford, baptized.
1691, Aug. 12. James, son of Thomas Alford, buried.
1693, July 11. Mary, daughter of Thomas and Ann Alford, baptized.
1693, July 23. Mary, daughter of Thomas Alford, buried.
1694, July 4. Edmund, son of Thomas and Ann Alford, baptized.
1696, Mar. 23. Elizabeth, daughter of Thomas and Ann Alford, baptized.

FROM LONDON MARRIAGE LICENCES.

1566, Dec. 1. The son of John Alford was baptized at St. Thomas the Apostle, London.
1575. Richard Alford married Jane Bryggs, widow, of St. Anne's, Blackfriars.
1620. Thomas Alford married Margaret Harrison, at St. Mary's, Whitechapel.
1623. Mary, daughter of Thomas Alford of London, was married to William Lloyd of Melverley, Shropshire.
1631. Edward Alford of Christ Church (Southwark), London, married Sarah Harding of St. Faith's, London, at All Hallows, Barking.
1651, July 13. Thomas Maynard and Margaret Alford, married. London.
1667. John Alford of St. Andrew's, Holborn, Esquire, married Mistress Sarah Jackson at St. Martin's in the Fields.
1691. Joseph Alford of London, bachelor, 36, married Mary Dod of Hinton, Northampton, spinster, 26, at St. Anne's, Westminster.
1704, Nov. 23. Alexander Alford of Stepney, married to Mary Moncke, at St. Mary Aldermary, London.

(The above are chiefly from Foster's *London Marriage Licences*.)

The Alfords of Wiltshire, etc.

The earliest records of the Alfords of this county, commencing in 1509, are obtained from wills. Many of these wills of Alfords are to be found in the Principal Registry at Somerset House, and some few of them are given in abstract below.

The town of MERE was a centre of Alford interests, the name often appearing in the old parish documents. The list of "Reeves" includes :—

1573	Christopher Alford.
1575	Thomas Alford.
1581	Christopher Alford.
1585	Thomas Alford.

The Reeve was the guardian of the common lands ; and the farm lands are still called after the names of former owners, "Alford's" among others.

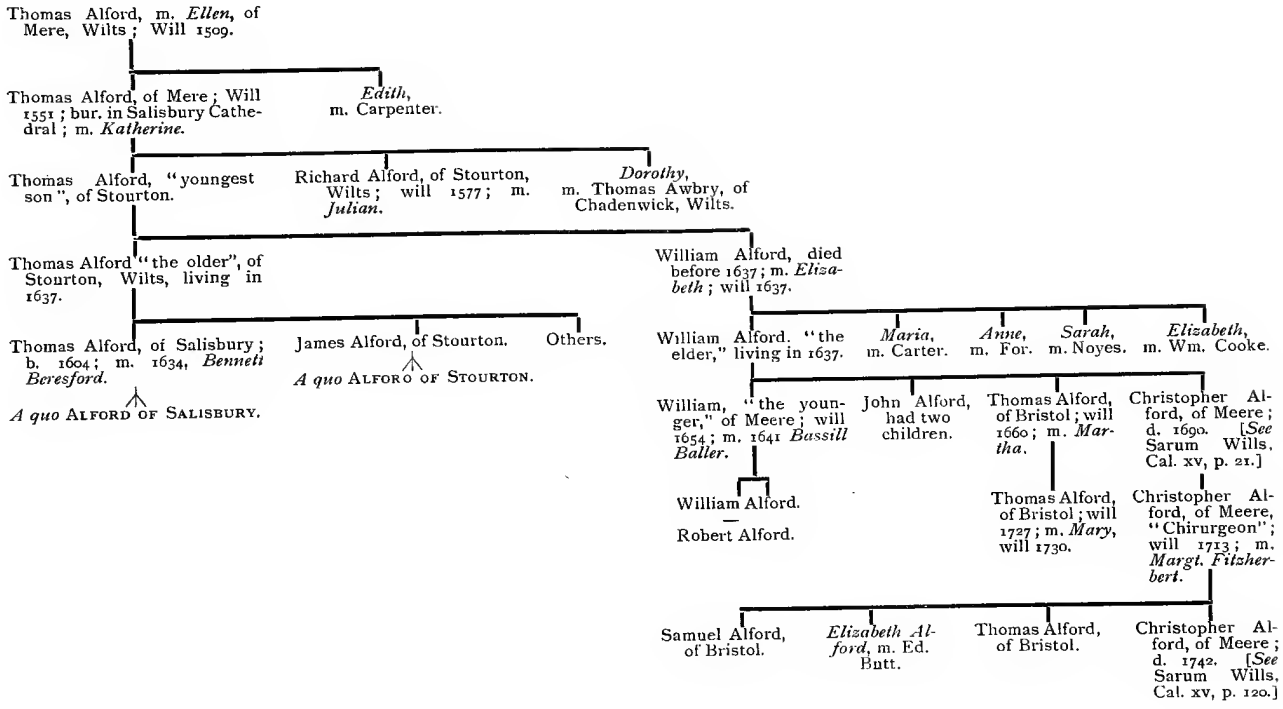
The Churchwardens' book at Mere contains a record of a dispute concerning tithe, the name of Christopher Alforde being included in a commission appointed to decide the same. "A Commysyon was a wardyd owet of the Honorable Courte of the Exchequer berynge date the xij daye of february in the xxiij yere of Queene Elyzabeth [1581]," etc.

The Church Plate includes a silver Chalice, 8¼ inches in height, inscribed :—

Ex dono Jacobi filii Thomæ Alforde de Mear, 1630.

Table V.

Alford of Wiltshire; Mere, Stourton, Salisbury, etc.



The following served as Churchwardens of Mere:—

1621 Thomas Alford, of Hyncksmyll.
1638 Thomas Alford.
1674 Robert Alford.
1680 James Alford.
1720 Thomas Alford.

(*Wiltshire Arch. Magazine.*)

The marriage is recorded, early in the sixteenth century, of Thomas Awbrey, of Chadenwick, Wilts, with Dorothy, daughter of Thomas Alford, of Mere, Wiltshire. (*Harl. Soc.*) His will follows :—

Thomas Alford of Mere, Wilts : 1551. To be buried in the churchyard of Salisbury Cathedral. My wife Katherine . . . . Richard my sonne, ... Thomas my youngest son . . . . to every serving man and woman. Thos. Awbry and Thos. Alford my sonne Executors. *P.C.C.* 28 *Bucke.*

The Mere Registers commence only in 1651. There are many Alford entries, and some of the name are still living there.

From the Alfords of Mere descended those of STOURTON, who apparently fell into poor circumstances.

The family interest in this parish arises from a different source. Alice Stourton, of Stourton Park, married John Sydenham, of Brympton, Somerset, and became the direct ancestress of Betty Sydenham, who was Bishop Alford's grandmother.

Burke's *Royal Descents*, vol. ii, p. 170, 1851, states that the Stourton family are "in direct descent from King Edward I, and entitled to quarter the Plantagenet Arms".

"The Manorial House at Brympton—which manor came to the Sydenhams from their ancestor, John

Stourton—was enriched with the insignia of Henry VIII, having in the centre the royal arms in a shield. This house was built by John Sydenham, who being—through Stourton—of the blood royal could venture to set up the royal arms." (Batten's *Descriptive and Historical Notes.*)

A connection with SALISBURY existed for a considerable time, and several Alfords were buried in the Salisbury Cathedral Precincts.

Thomas Alford, gentleman, of Salisbury, bachelor, 30, had licence to marry Bennett Beresford, of Wanstead, Essex, spinster, 24, at St. John Zachary, London; licence dated 6th September 1634. (*London Marriage Licences.*)

Clarendon Park, near Salisbury, was held in the latter part of the seventeenth century by John Alford, a member of the Hereford and Coventry branch. (See page 51 *ante.*)

Jonathan Alford was member of parliament for the Salisbury division of Wiltshire in 1821.

"Two charming old ladies, Miss *Anna* and Miss *Martha Alford*", lived at Sarum about 1830. Their mother was a sister of Dr. Goodenough, rector of Yate, Gloucestershire. Sir William Goodenough Hayter, M.P., was their cousin.

John Lush Alford, of Salisbury, was in 1836 fined the sum of £80 for refusing to serve as magistrate in that city. He was a lawyer, and was not related to the Misses Alford mentioned above.

The later generations of the foregoing Wiltshire Pedigree show a connection with Bristol. Several wills are appended which give particulars on this point; while the will of Christopher Alford, of Mere, taken from the Somerset House Registry, contains references to Bristol of considerable interest, and gives proof also of a continued connection with Stourton and Mere.

The *Harleian MSS.* mention the marriage of Thomas Alford, of Bristol, with Hester Allen, of Wrainton (Wrington), co. Somerset, about 1620.

In St. Mary Redcliff Church there is also a stone, without date, inscribed to "Maria Alford uxor Thomæ." His will follows:—

Thomas Alford, of the parish of St. Mary Redcliff, in the city of Bristoll, gentleman. 1727. "To my wife Mary Alford all my household goods, rings, plate, ready money, and securities . . . . My said wife sole executrix." *Bristol Probate Registry.*

In 1734 allusion is found to Robert Alford, a cordwainer, of St. Mary Redcliff, Bristol.

The living of Purton, Wiltshire (near Swindon), was held from 1629 to 1664 by William Alford, younger brother of Sir Edward Alford, of Offington, county Sussex. (See page 42 *ante*.)

ABSTRACTS OF WILLS.

Ellen Alford, widow, of Mere, Wilts: dated July 1, proved August 31, 1509. Latin Will.

"Ego Elena Alford compos mentis sane memoria", etc. "My house" . . . . "a field" . . . . "to the high Altar . . . . "to the Chapel of the Holy Cross" . . "to Christopher Chater". Residue to his Executors, Thomas Alford and Edith Carpenter. John Watts, John Smyth, witnesses. *P.C.C.* 19 *Bennett.*

Richard Alford, of Stourton, co. Wilts: 1577. "To be buried at Stourton . . . To the church of Stourton . . . . To my wife Julian . . . . a bedd . . . . a kettle . . . . eight pewter vessels . . . . a gridiron . . . . a brushe . . . . a hanginge . . . . in money the sum of ten pounds. My wife Julian sole executrix. Richd Adams and James Kempson, overseers." Proved Jan. 28.

Somerset House, Rm. xxxii, *A.S.*, v, 299.

Thomas Alford, of Meare, Wilts: 1590. "My daughter Margery, wife of John Greene of Meare, the lease of a close of land . . . . her sons . . . . her daughters . . . . six silver spoons with a mayden's head on them. My son in law John Clapp Executor." Proved April 17, 1591. *Wells Probate Reg. Bk.* xxviii, *fol.* 169.

Elizabeth Alford, of Sarum, Wilts, widdowe: 1637. "To Thomas Alford the older . . . . unto my sonne William Alford the elder . . . . and unto my sonne William Alford the younger . . . . My daughter Anne For . . . . My daughter Sara Noyes . . . . My daughter Elizabeth Cooke . . . . My daughter Maria Carter . . . . My son William Cooke." *P.C.C.* 88 *Goare.*

William Alford, of Mere, Wilts: 1654. "To the poore of Mere . . . . Unto William Allford my sonne a tenement in Castell Street, and ground called Hirdes . . . . To Robert Allford my second sonne one horse, one mare, etc. . . . . Residue unto Bassill Allford my wife, and at her decease to be equally disposed of betwixt my two children. My brother John Allford's two children . . . . My brothers Thomas and Christopher's children . . . . My brother Christopher Allford, and Christopher Butt, Overseers."

P.C.C. 61 *Allchin.*

Thomas Alford, of the Parishe of St. Stephen, in the Citie of Bristol: 1660. "My sonn Thomas now under the age of 21 . . . . My wife Martha." Proved by Christopher Alford.

Bristol Probate Registry.

Christopher Alford, of Meere, co. Wilts, chirurgeon: dated 1698, proved 1713. "Unto Samuel Allford and Elizabeth Allford my son and daughter all that messuage and tenement in Wine Street, near the Petty-head in the city of Bristoll. In case they die before they attain the age of 21 or be married, then to my son Thomas Alford. To the said Thomas a messuage in St. Peter's Street, Bristoll. To Margaret, my now wife, for life, and after to my son Christopher, a messuage in Chequer Lane, Bristoll . . . . messuage in Stourton, Wilts . . . . etc." Probate granted "to Margaret Alford, widow; Samuel Alford; and Elizabeth Alford, now wife of Edward Butt."

P.C.C. 76 *Pett.*

Mary Alford, of the City of Bristol, widow: 1730. "To my neece Martha Alford of Bristol, spinster . . . . my nephew John Alford . . . . Residue to Anne, wife of James Short, whom I appoint sole executrix." *Bristol Probate Registry.*

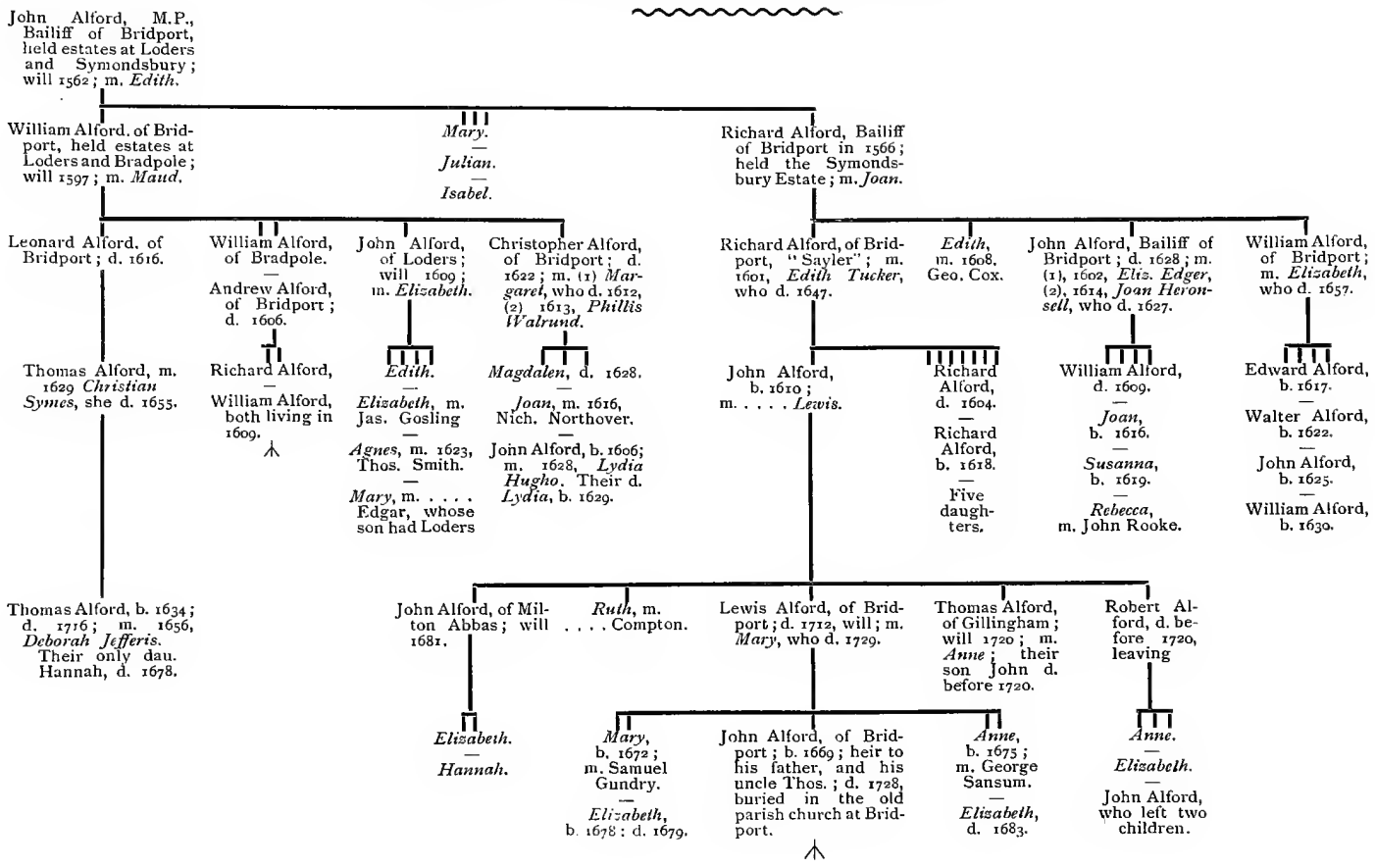
Frances Alford, of Bristol, 1766, wife of John Alford of Bristol, gentleman. " To my husband all that dwelling-house", etc. *Bristol Probate Registry.*

EXTRACTS FROM THE REGISTERS OF STOURTON, WILTS.

1577, Dec. 16.	Richard Alford, buried.
1604, Jan. 20.	John, sonne of James Alford, baptized.
1611, Feb. 8.	James Alford and Margaret Giles, married.
1616, Jan. 27.	James Alford and Joan Toope, married.
1616, Apr. 10.	John, sonne of James Alford, buried.
1616, Dec. 12.	Margaret, wife of James Alford, buried.
1618, May 20.	Mary, daughter of James Alford, baptized.
1642, July 15.	James Allford, buried.
1644, Oct. 13.	Joane, daughter of Mary Alford, baptized.
1648, Jan. 18.	Margaret Alford, widow, buried.
1665, Jan. 1.	Ann Allford, buried.
1708, Jan. 3.	Robert Alford and Elizabeth Evile, married.
1709, Oct. 16.	John, son of Robert and Elizabeth Alford, baptized.
1713, Apr. 18.	John, son of Robert and Elizabeth Alford, buried.
1713, Apr. 20.	Patience, daughter of Robert and Elizabeth Alford, baptized.
1715, Oct. 15.	John, son of Robert and Elizabeth Alford, baptized.
1718, Apr. 28.	Joseph and Mary, son and daughter of Robert and Elizabeth Alford, baptized.
1723, Apr. 22.	Elizabeth, wife of Robert Alford, buried.
1724, Jan. 27.	John, son of Robert Alford, buried.
1737, May 17.	Rose, daughter of Walter and Rebecca Alford, baptized.
1739, Jan. 20.	Elizabeth, daughter of Walter and Rebecca Alford, baptized.
1744, Feb. 12.	Joan Alford, buried.
1746, Sept. 28.	Robert Alford, buried.
1783, Oct. 19.	Stephen Bourton and Ann Alford, married.

Table VI.

Alford of Dorsetshire; Bridport, etc.



The Alfords of Dorsetshire; Bridport, etc.

John Alford, who heads the pedigree of this family, was bailiff or mayor of Bridport in 1544, and also Member of Parliament for the borough. *Richard Alford*, his son, held the office of bailiff in 1566, and Richard's son, *John Alford*, in 1602. (See Hutchin's *History of Dorset*, vol. ii, p. 10.)

The family held a position of local importance in and near Bridport for about two hundred years. Some connection with London is apparent, with Bristol, and with Devonshire. Two flat tombstones, much worn, but bearing the names of "Lewis Alford, gent." and "John Alford, gent.", who died in 1712 and 1728 respectively, lie in the paving of Bridport Church, immediately under the central tower. (See *Monumental Inscriptions*, following.)

It is worthy of note that the disappearance of the Lewis Alfords at Bridport, coincides closely with their appearance at Wear Gifford, in Devonshire. This connection is of interest, as from it apparently came the line now represented by the descendants of the late Mr. Lewis Alford, of Westbourne Terrace, Hyde Park. A century and a half of Devonshire associations has given this family a definite standing in that county, and further notes will be found in connection with the Alfords of Devonshire.

Estates at Loders and Symondsbury, in the neighbour-

hood of Bridport, were in the possession of the Alfords, passing down two diverging lines. The property at Loders eventually passed to the Edgar family, through the marriage into that family of Mary Alford. The property in Symondsbury continued in Alford hands until the death, in 1715, of John Alford of that place, in whose will, and in other papers, some interesting particulars are found concerning the property and its disposal.

Some particulars concerning the Symondsbury Estate are found in a release of property which had been held in trust by Mary Alford, grandmother of John Alford, who died in 1715, and others, on behalf of Julian Alford, his widowed mother, who had married Mr. William Clap. The probate of John Alford's will, together with a list of his debts, and the original release, are in the compiler's possession. The latter is dated April 18th, 1694, and bears an original signature, also a seal with the impression of an old-fashioned three-masted ship. This deed is "between Mary Alford, of the parish of Symondsbury, in the county of Dorsett, widow, grandmother of John Alford, of the said parish of Symondsbury, gent., Hugh Browne, of Poorstocke, Anthony Stevens, and William Lush, of Chiddiocke, of the one part, and the said John Alford, of the other part, for the discharge of a trust in them together with John Oliver, deceased; to confirm unto the said John Alford, his heirs and assigns, all that dwelling-house and land called King's Pen, late in the tenure of William Clap, in right of Julian his wife, relict of Arthur Alford deceased, and mother of the said John Alford".

The estate of King's Pen is thus described :—

"All that dwelling-house and parcell of land called King's Pen, one

close of meadow called King's Pen Meads, one close of pasture called Dry Close, one close of arable land called White Close, one close called Caule Close, one close called South Downs, one close called Middle Downe, one close called North Downe, one called the Plaine of the Hill contayning by estimacon eight acres, one close called Bennethill, and also all buildings, gardens, orchards, and common of pasture, of right enjoyed with the said house and land called King's Pen."

John Alford, of Symondsbury, made his will in 1688, "beinge sicke in bodie". He died in 1715, at the age of 48 or 49, without issue, and left no brother. He was living on Brighthay at the time of his death—a good and substantial dwelling-house. By this time all his five sisters had married. *Mary* married, in 1696, William Hallett, of Bridport (see Registers); *Jane* married Arthur Lush; *Elizabeth*, b. 1671, married John Lewis, goldsmith of London; *Sarah*, b. 1674, married Thomas Wilson; and *Anne*, b. 1676, married John Crabb, of Chiddiock. Jane and Sarah died in the lifetime of John Alford. After his death John Lewis interfered with the estate, to which the widow, Joan Alford, had succeeded. In 1717 the will —made before the testator's marriage—was proved, John Browne acting as executor, the widow renouncing. At the instance of John Lewis and Elizabeth, his wife, the will was disputed, resulting in a suit to which certain papers in the compiler's possession refer. In these papers reference is made to Mr. John Alford, of Bridport, in 1716, the son of Lewis Alford, who lent John and Elizabeth Lewis £500.

The Alford properties in Symondsbury were known as "Brighthay, Parks, and King's Pen". These properties, the inheritance of John Alford, were sold for £8,000.

The will of John Gigger, of Poole, co. Dorset, who died in 1713 (*P.C.C. 133 Leeds*), shows that his wife was

sister to William Alford ; William Alford having married John Gigger's sister *Anne.* By this marriage William Alford had four daughters :—

i. *Anne*, married Martin, of Bristol; a widow in 1713.
ii. *Mary*, married William Fitzherbert, of Chiddeock, near Bridport.
iii. *Joanna*, married Dods, of Beaminster, co. Dorset; a widow, in 1713.
iv. *Agnes*, unmarried.

The Giggers were a Dorsetshire family of some note. A full pedigree is given in Hutchin's *Dorset* (3rd edition, vol. i, p. 122), in which the Alford connection is shown. The William Alford here mentioned as marrying Anne Gigger, was the son of William and Anne Alford. John Gigger, of Poole, who died 1713, and his sister Anne were the children of Laurence Gigger, mayor of Poole.

Another Dorsetshire line of Alfords, and one of greater interest, is found in connection with Lyme Regis. This, however, must be dealt with in conjunction with Devonshire, on the very border of which county Lyme Regis is situated. And as that line descended from the Alfords of Winsham, Somersetshire, it becomes necessary to deal with the Winsham family next (Table VII), returning then (Table VIII) to Lyme Regis and Devon.

It may be well here to add some miscellaneous notes:—

Thomas Alford was rector of Blandford, Dorset, in 1549.

John Alford was rector of Ryme-Intrinseca, near Sherborne, co. Dorset, from 1645 to 1650.

Other early Alfords appear to have lived at Whitchurch Canonicorum, between Lyme Regis and Bridport. (See Register extract below.)

The Registers of Folke, near Sherborne, contain the following entry:—"1641, July 19, William Alford married Bassell Baller." This William Alford was of the Wiltshire family (see Table v), and died at Mere in 1654.

In 1825 William Naish Allford, a lawyer, of Sherborne, was elected a governor of the Johns' Hospital—an ancient Alms House founded in 1448. A mural brass in the board room bears this inscription:—"William Naish Allford, of Sherborne. Esquire, J.P., one of the Brethren, gave certain Buildings adjacent to the Alms House, by means of which the Master and Brethren were enabled to erect this East Wing and Board Room."

In 1854 William Allford, B.A., of Magdalen, Oxford, son of the above William Naish Allford, became rector of Folke and also perpetual curate of North Wootton, Dorset. He died at Teignmouth, Devon, and was buried at Folke in 1865, aged 45. The Rev. William Allford had four children:—Wm. Bellairs Allford, b. 1853, d. 1863; Alice, m. Horace Cheston; Walter Burton Allford, b. 1857, who died at the Cape when about 21 years old; and Henry George Linwood Allford, b. 1859, a medical man at Hastings, and joint patron of the living of Folke. (See Monumental Inscriptions, below.)

It will be convenient to collect the abstracts of the various parish registers, wills, and monumental inscriptions which have been noted relative to this line:—

BRIDPORT REGISTERS. (*These commence in* 1600.)

1601, June 30.	Richard Alford and Edith Tucker, married.
1602, Aug. 25.	Mr. John Alford, bayliffe of Bridport, and Elizabeth Edger, of Mosterne, within the parish of South Parrott, married.
1604, Mar. 24.	Richard, sonne of Richard Alford, buried.
1604, Apr. 18.	Dorcas, daughter of Richard Alford, baptized.
1604, Aug. 20.	Henry Lamburne and Margaret Alforde, married.
1606, Mar. 14.	Andrew Alford, buried.
1606, May 4.	John, sonne of Christopher Alforde, baptized.
1608, Jan. 16.	Susanna, daughter of Richard Alford, baptized.
1608, Oct. 25.	George Cox and Edith Alford, married.
1609, May 7.	William, sonne of Mr. John Alford, buried.
1610, May 10.	John, sonne of Richard Alford, tayler, baptized.
1612, Oct. 13.	Marie, daughter of Richard Alford, baptized.
1612, Nov. 25.	Margaret, wife of Christopher Alford, buried.
1613, Apr. 14.	Christopher Alford and Phillis Lawrund, married.

1614, Jan. 10. John Alford and Joan Hounsell, married.
1614, Nov. 23. Joan, daughter of Richard Alford, baptized.
1616, Mar. 24. Leonard Alford, buried.
1616, May 4. Marie, daughter of Agnes Alford, buried.
1616, Aug. 13. Joan, daughter of John Alford, baptized.
1616, Sept. 22. Joan, daughter of Richard Alford, buried.
1616, Nov. 13. Nicholas Northover and Joan Alford, married.
1617, Jan. 21. Edward, son of William Alford, baptized.
1618, Feb. 1. Richard, son of Richard Alford, baptized.
1618, Feb. 14. Susanna, daughter of John Alford, baptized.
1619, July 13. Judith, daughter of Richard Alford, baptized.
1620, Jan. 9. John Hill and Dorothy Alford, married.
1620, Jan. 30. Amie, daughter of William Alford, baptized.
1622, July 3. Christopher Alford, buried.
1622, Aug. 21. Walter, sonne of William Alford, baptized.
1622, Sept. 17. Rebecca, daughter of John Alford, baptized.
1623, July 10. Thomas Smith and Agnes Alford, married.
1625, Sept. 11. John, sonne of William Alford, baptized.
1625, Oct. 25. Judith, daughter of Richard Alford, buried.
1626, June 24. Marie, daughter of John Alford, baptized.
1627, Apr. 22. James Gosling and Elizabeth Alford, married.
1627, Aug. 19. Joan, wife of John Alford, buried.
1627, Oct. 15. Alexander, sonn of Thomas Alford, baptized.
1628, Apr. 16. Magdalen, daughter of Christopher Alford, buried.
1628, Apr. 23. John Alford and Lydia Hughs, married.
1628, Aug. 6. John Alford, buried.
1629, Jan. 26. Lydia, daughter of John Alford, baptized.
1629, May 5. Marie, daughter of John Alford, buried.
1629, Nov. 2. Thomas Alford and Christian Symes, married.
1630, Dec. 19. Marie, daughter of Thomas Alford, and William, son of William Alford, baptized.
1634, Nov. 15. Thomas, son of Thomas Alford, baptized.
1636, Sept. 26. John Solle and Amie Alford, married.

[*Entries irregular from here to the Restoration, in* 1661.]

1647, Oct. — Edith, the wyfe of Richard Alford, buried.
1654, Nov. 4. William Wickham [?] and Joan Alford, married.
1655, Nov. 15. Christian, wyffe of Thomas Allford, buried.
1656, Jan. 6. Thomas Allford, of Bradpole, and Debrow Jeffrees, married.
1656, Apr. — John Rooke and Rebeka Alford, married.
1657, Aug. 22. Elizabeth, wyfe of William Alford, buried.
1659, July 24. John Judgeler [?] and Elizabeth Alford, married.
1665, Mar. 18. Richard Alford, buried.
1669, Jan. 3. John, sonne of Luis Alford, baptized.
1671, Oct. 8. William Alford, buried.

1672, Jan. 10. Mary, daughter of Lewis Alford, baptized.
1672, Mar. 4. Deborah, wife of Thomas Alford, buried.
1675, Sept. 20. Ann, daughter of Lewis Alford, baptized.
1678, July 24. Elizabeth, daughter of Lewis Alford, baptized.
1678, Nov. 14. Hannah, daughter of Thomas Alford, buried.
1679, Sept. 5. Elizabeth, daughter of Lewis Alford, buried.
1680, Apr. 13. Martha, daughter of Lewis Alford, baptized.
1682, May 9. Martha, daughter of Lewis Alford, buried.
1683, May 7. Elizabeth, daughter of Lewis Alford, baptized.
1692, July 14. Samuell Gundry and Mary Alford, married.
1696, Dec. 17. William Hallett and Mary Alford, married.
1697, May 19. Andrew Luff and Joan Alford, married.
1698, Apr. 21. Ann Alford, buried.
1702, Feb. 19. George Lansum and Ann Alford, married.
1710, Mar. 26. Angell Alford, buried.
1712-13, Jan. 8. Lewis Alford, buried (Monumental Inscription).
1716, Oct. 16. Thomas Alford, buried.
1726, May 21. Robert Newman and Joan Alford, married.
1728, Jan. 31. John Alford, buried (Monumental Inscription).
1729, July 1. Mary Alford, widow, buried.

[*Searched up to* 1800, *but no more Alford entries.*]

REGISTERS OF CHARMOUTH, DORSET.

1688, Apr. 15. John Alford and Margret Roberts, married.

[*Registers begin in* 1653; *no other Alford entry.*]

REGISTERS OF SOUTH PERROTT, DORSET.

1610, Apr. 10. Richardus Hallett de Bridport uxorem duxit Agnetam Alford.

REGISTERS OF WHITCHURCH CANONICORUM, DORSET.

1572, Jan. 15. John Alford and Margaret Hownsell, married.
1607, Oct. 1. Elizabeth, daughter of John Alford, baptized.
1609, May 3. Nicholas, sonne of John Alford, baptized.
1610, June 28. Joane, daughter of John Alford, baptized.
1616, July 28. Elnor, daughter of John Alford, baptized.

ABSTRACTS OF WILLS.

John Alford of Bridport, Dorset, 1562. To be buried at Bridport. Bequests to parishes of Loder and Symonds-borowe. My daughters

Julian and Mary. Edith my wife. William my son (whose Will next). Richard my son. Estates in Loder and Symonds-borowe. "To every one of my children, that is to say William, Richard, Julian, Mary, Isabel." *P.C.C. 26 Streat.*

[This John Alford was Bailiff or Mayor of Bridport, and M.P. His son Richard was Bailiff in 1566.]

William Alford, of Bridport, Dorset, 1597. "To my sonne John Alford all personal effects. Item I give to his two children two porringers. To Joane Alford her four children foure platters of the best. To Maude Peattie (?Peathe) all her mother's lynnen. To Andrew my sonne three yeares rent of Pinkmeade. To Christopher my sonne the house in which I nowe dwell. To Leonard my sonne my greate barne. Unto William Alford my sonne all my lands in Bradpoll, to him and to his heirs. Wm. Alford Executor. To the Church at Bristoll . . . . To the Church of Bridport . . . . To the Church of Loder . . . . . William Alford's two daughters."

Probate granted to Leonard, 1597, William being dead.

P.C.C. 93 Cobham.

John Alford, of Bridport, 1609. To be buried in the Churchyard of Bridport. "To the poor of Bridport. To 'Elizabeth my wief' the lands called Bromills during her life, and after her decease to Edith and Elizabeth my daughters. To Richard Alford, the son of Andrew my brother, my tenement in the West Street of Bridport. To John Edgar, son of my daughter Mary, my land in Loders. To William, son of my brother Andrew Alford. Thomas Alford, son of my brother Leonard. 'Maudlin and Joane Alford, daughters of my brother Christopher.' Four daughters of Leonard Alford. Agnes my daughter." *P.C.C. 10 Wingfield.*

John Alford, of Milton Abbas, co. Dorset, 1681, Mercer. "To Elizabeth and Hannah Alford, my two daughters, all my lands and tenements . . . . My brothers Robert Alford, Thomas Alford, and Lewis Alford, joynt Executors." Ann Alford a witness.

P.C.C. 20 North.

Lewis Alford, of Bridport, in the co. of Dorsett, clothier. [Died 1712] 1713. "To the poore of Bridport . . . . My daughter Anne, wife of George Sansum, of Ryden, in the co. of Somersett . . . . To my daughter Elizabeth £1000 . . . . John Allford, son of my brother Thomas Alford of Gillingham, and Richard Battiscombe of Court de Wick in the co. of Somersett, Trustees. To my dear wife all my houses, lands, etc. at Monkswood in the parishes of Marshwood and Abbotstoke; also the messuage known as West Mill near the west end of the West Street in the Town of Bridport; also the

Messuage in the East Street now in the occupation of my sister Ruth Compton . . . . Residue to my son John Alford, sole Executor." *P.C.C.* 121 *Leeds.*

John Alford, of Symondsbury, in the co. of Dorsett, gent. (dated 1688, proved 1715. Probate copy in compiler's possession). "Sicke in body . . . . unto my sister Mary Alford one ffifth part of my lands, tenements, etc., in Symondsbury, the whole in ffive parts to be divided, unto her and her heirs for ever. Unto my sister Jane Alford one ffifth part, etc. Unto my uncle John Browne, my uncle Anthony Stevens, and my cousen John Oliver one other fifth part to hold during the terms of ffour years if my sister Elizabeth shall so long live and remaine unmarried, and under the age of one and twenty years, and after my said sister shall attaine to her age or be married, then do I give the said ffifth part to her and to her heires for ever; and one ffifth part to hold during the terme of seven years if my sister Sarah shall so long live, etc. . . . and one ffifth part to hold during the terme of nine years if my sister Ann shall so long live, etc. It is my will concerning the several ffifth parts devised to my uncles and cousen during the said several termes, that they shall apply the rents and profits for the maintenance, education, and use of my said sister, so long as she shall cohabite and dwell with my grandmother Alford, or with any other person whom they shall allow of; and during the dwelling or cohabitation of my said sister contrary to the good liking of my said uncles and cousen . . . they shall apply the rents and profits of the said ffifth part to and for the benefitt only of the rest of my said sisters." *Archdeaconry of Dorset Registry.*

Thomas Allford, of Gillingham, in the co. of Dorsett, 1720, gentleman, "being well stricken in years". "To my loving wife Anne Allford all my lands lying in Gillingham, Motcombe, and Shaston, in the said co. of Dorsett . . . . To my kinsman John Allford, son of Isaac Allford by Hannah his wife, £200. To my two nieces Anne and Elizabeth, daughters of my brother Robert Allford deceased, £80 apiece. To the two children of John Allford deceased, son of my said brother Robert, £20 apiece. To my niece Elizabeth, daughter of my brother Lewis Allford deceased, £50. To the seven children of my kinsman Mr. Samuel Gundry, £20 apiece. To the children of my kinsman Mr. George Sansum, £20 apiece. My freehold lands, after my wife's decease, to my nephew Mr. John Allford of Bridport, and his heirs for ever. My said nephew sole executor."

P.C.C. 77 *Shaller.*

MONUMENTAL INSCRIPTIONS.

Bridport, Dorsetshire; two flat stones in the paving of the middle aisle, immediately under the centre tower of the Parish Church. The Lectern stands upon the easternmost of them :—

"In memory of Lewis Alford, of this place, Gentleman;
and Mary his wife.
He died 1712."

[*The rest is illegible.*]

Bridport, Dorsetshire; adjoining the above :—

"In memory of
John Allford, Gent.,
who died
ye 25 of Jan., 1728,
aged 59."

[*The rest is illegible.*]

Sherborne Abbey, Dorsetshire; a Memorial Tablet :—

"In loving memory of
William Naish Allford,
Justice of the Peace,
of the Counties of Devon and Somerset.
Born Dec. 18, 1789. Died Oct. 8, 1869."

"Also of his beloved wife,
Frances Jane Coward Allford.
Born Oct. 4, 1795. Died Nov. 14, 1872."

Folke, near Sherborne, Dorsetshire; a flat tomb-stone in the Churchyard :—

"William Bellairs Allford,
Died at Blandford,
17 June, 1863.
Aged nine years."

Folke, near Sherborne, Dorsetshire :—

"William Allford,
Rector of this Parish,
Died at Teignmouth,
1 April, 1865.
Aged 45 years."

The Alfords of Winsham, Somerset.

FOR about two hundred years the Alfords held houses and lands in Winsham, now a straggling and somewhat decayed village, lying between Chard and Crewkerne, in the County of Somerset, close to the borders of Devonshire. Winsham was formerly, however, a place of some importance, noted for the manufacture of cloth, and several of the Alfords of Winsham owed their competence to this business, at that time a prosperous one in the whole of the south-west of England.

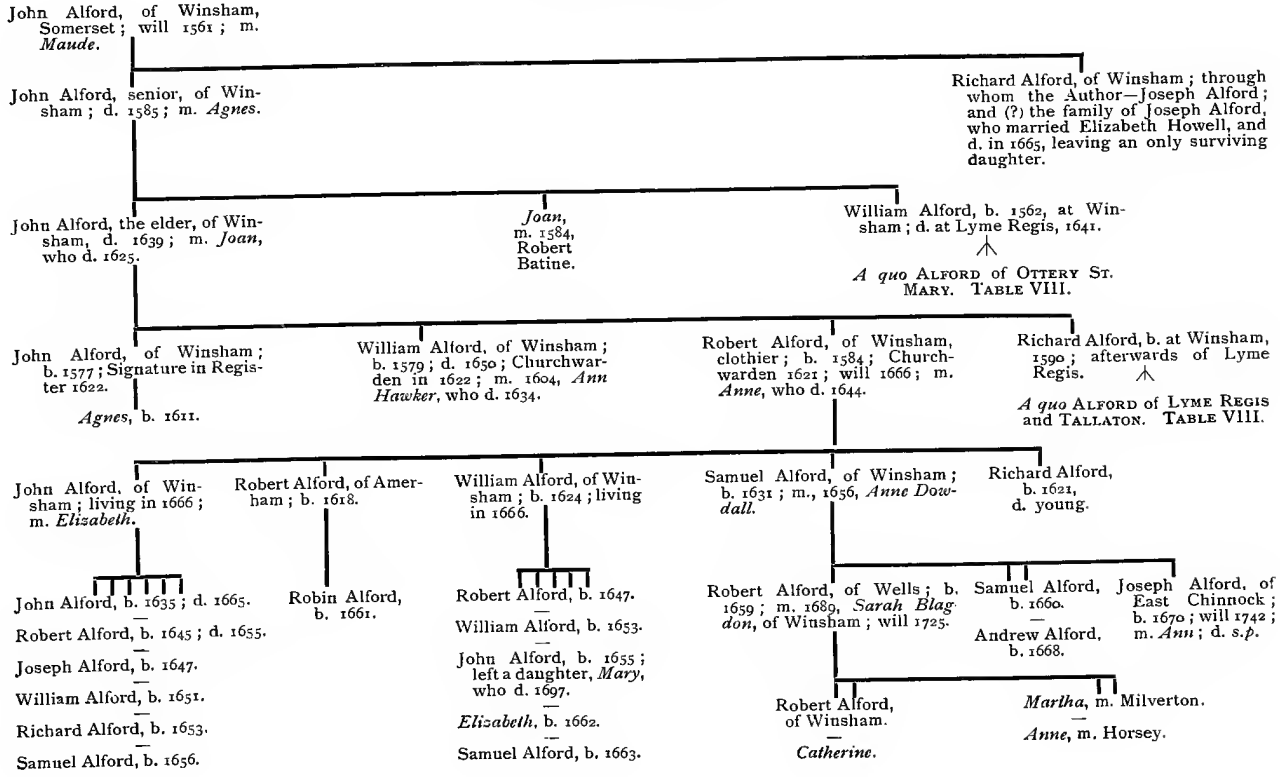
It may be noted that for six successive generations, as will be seen in the pedigree, the senior member of the family in Winsham was a John Alford. The loyalty of the Alfords to the national church is also noticeable, at a time when there were strong leanings towards dissent in these western counties.

From the Winsham family sprang the Alfords of Lyme Regis, Ottery St. Mary, and Escott in Talaton.

Joseph Alford, author of *The Church Triumphant*, and *The Soul's Dispensatory*, published in London in 1649, was born at Winsham, but as the Wills and Registers mention three or four of that name it is difficult to distinguish the one from the other. A signature in the Registers in 1642 is probably this author's. He matriculated at Oriel College, Oxford, and proceeded to the degree of M.A. The books he wrote were in the Sydenham Library and Catalogue, and may now

Table VII.

Alford of Winsham, Somerset.



be seen in the British Museum Library. His name also appears as follows:—"Alforde, Joseph, Witness against Totehill." 2 Cranmer, 387, 388. Parker Society. Joseph Alford is referred to in Ormerod's *History of Cheshire*, where, speaking of the Alfords of Aldford and Holt (see pedigree Tables I and II), who afterwards branched off into Berkshire and the west of England, he says, "from these descended Joseph Alford, author of two religious treatises published in London in 1649". The dedication of these books to Sir John Brownlow has been already alluded to (*ante*, p. 3).

In 1649 another *Joseph Alford*, perhaps the nephew of the author, matriculated at Oxford. He married, at Winsham, in 1654; served as churchwarden of the parish in 1657, his signature being in the Register Book; and died in 1665, leaving no son. Letters of administration to his sister, Elizabeth Alford, of Winsham, were proved in October, 1673 (the year following her death), by their brother John. This John left two sons, twins, John and William Alford, born in 1686.

Another author of the same period may here be mentioned, *Michael Alford*, or "Father Alford", author of *Britannia Illustrata*, published at Antwerp, in 1641, and of *Annales Ecclesiæ Britannicæ*, 1663. In his case Alford was an assumed name, his real name being Griffiths, but it is not known what led him to adopt it. He was born in 1587. At the age of twenty he became a Jesuit, but afterwards left the Church of Rome, which he attacked in his writings. He died at Exeter in 1652.

The Winsham Alfords naturally spread into the neighbouring town of Chard which is only three miles distant. Here, at a later date, *i.e.* from 1782 to 1805, when he

died, Thomas Alford, of the Weston Zoyland line, was vicar. (See Table X.) His signature appears many times in the Registers, and there are numerous entries concerning the former mentioned family.

The following extracts from the Parish Books of Winsham, concerning the Alford family, are of interest:—

1577. "Seates. On ye north syde nexte ye Chancell, John Alforde."
1621. Robert Alford signs as churchwarden.
1622. William Alford was churchwarden. The signatures of Robert Alford and John Alford.
1642. Robert Alford signs as churchwarden. Amongst the signatures to a "Protestation" are those of John Alford, Joseph Alford, Robert Alford, and William Alford.
Also, "The seat that belongeth to John Alford to remayne to that tenement of Amerham the which Robert Alford his father now enjoyeth."
1657. Joseph Alford signs as churchwarden.
1658. "Joseph Alford hath a room (*i.e.* a pew) near the Porch door." Also mention of "John Alford, whose father's house was in Amerham."
1666. March 22. John Alford and Robert Alford were witnesses at the induction of a new Vicar.
1689. "John Alford of Wells, Gentleman, 29, married Sarah Blackdon, of Winsham, County Somerset, at St. Cuthbert's, Wells."

EXTRACTS FROM THE WINSHAM REGISTERS.

1560, Apr. 11. Catherina Alforde, baptized.
1561, Dec. 29. Joan'es Allforde, buried.
1562, Jan. 8. Gulielm's filius Joan'is Allforde, baptized.
1567, Mar. 8. Matilda Allforde, buried.
1577, Mar. 24. Joan'es fil. Joannis Alforde junoris, buried.
1579, Mar. 11. William, sonne of John Alforde, baptized.
1581, Dec. 22. Maria filia Joannis Allforde junior, baptized.
1584, June 5. Robertus filius Joannis Alforde, junior, baptized.
1584, July 26. Robert Batine and Joan Allford, marryed.
1585, Dec. 27. Joannes Alforde, senior, buried.
1587, Mar. 1. Agnes and Joanna filiæ geminæ Joannis Alforde, baptized.
1590, Mar. 11. Richardus filius Joannis Alforde, baptized.
1592, July 24. Elizabetha filia Joannis Alforde, baptized.

1592, Oct. 24. Elizabetha filia Joannis Alforde, infans, buried.
1594, Aug. 22. Elizabetha filia Joannis Alforde, baptized.
1596, Feb. 27. Agnes Alforde, vidua, buried.
1604, Aug. 30. Gulielmus Alforde et Ana Hawker, nupti.
1608, May 23. Gulielmus Lomberde et Maria Alforde, nupti.
1611, Apr. 21. Agnes filia Joannis Alforde, junior, baptized.
1612, Nov. 30. Thomas Membry cum Joanna Alford, nuptiis.
1613, Aug. 1. Joannes filius Rich. Alforde, baptized.
1616, Apr. 16. Richardus Allforde, baptized.
1618, Nov. 1. Robertus Allforde, baptized.
1618, Nov. 23. Richarde Allforde was buried.
1621, Nov. 14. Richard, sonne of Robert Alford, baptized.
1624, Jan. 5. William, sonne of Robert Alford, baptized.
1625, Nov. 20. Joan Alford was buried.
1628, Aug. 15. Thomas Deane and Mary Alford (Gould), married.
1629, June 17. John Edwards and Anne Alford, married.
1631, July 3. Samuell, sonne of Robert Alford, baptized.
1634, July 7. Anna Alford, sepult.
1635, Nov. 30. John, the sonne of John and Elizabeth Alford, baptized.
1637, Sept. 6. Elizabeth, daughter of John and Elizabeth Alford, baptized.
1638, Dec. 17. Giles Alford *als.* Gould, buried.
1639, Feb. 7. John Alford, senior, buried.
1639, June 11. John Hidgcock and Agnes Alford, married.
1639, Sept. 29. Annie, daughter of John and Elizabeth Alford, baptized.
1641, Jan. 25. Marie, daughter of John and Elizabeth Alford, baptized.
1643, June 7. Joanne, daughter of John and Elizabeth Alford, baptized.
1644, Sept. 12. Anne Alford, buried.
1645, July 22. Robert, sonne of John and Elizabeth Alford, baptized.
1647, Jan. 24. Joseph, sonne of John and Elizabeth Alford, baptized.
1647, July 30. Robert, sonne of William Alford, baptized.
1648, Nov. 21. Emma, the daughter of John and Elizabeth Alford, baptized.
1650, Jan. 16. William Alford, buried.
1651, July 1. William, son of John and Elizabeth Alford, baptized.
1653, May 21. Richard, son of John and Elizabeth Alford, baptized.
1653, Nov. 13. William, the son of William Alford, baptized.
1654, Oct. 17. Joseph Alford and Elizabeth Holwell, married.
1655, Oct. 16. Robert, son of John Alford, buried.
1655, Oct. 23. Robert, son of Robert Alford, baptized.

1655, Dec. 30. John, son of William Alford, baptized.
1656, June 3. Samuel, son of John Alford, baptized.
1656, Aug. 26. Joseph, son of Joseph Alford, baptized.
1656, Sept. 29. Samuel Alford and Anne Dowdall, married.
1657, June 3. Robert, son of Robert Alford, buried.
1657, July 13. Joseph, son of Joseph Alford, buried.
1657, Dec. 14. Mary, daughter of Samuel and Anne Alford, baptized.
1658, Mar. 25. Richard and Elizabeth, son and daughter of Robert Alford, baptized.
1658, Apr. 14. Richard, son of Robert Alford, buried.
1659, Apr. 7. Robert, son of Samuel Alford, baptized.
1660, July 20. Samuel, son of Samuel Alford, baptized.
1661, May 16. Jane, daughter of Joseph Alford, baptized.
1661, Sept. 16. Robin, son of Robert Alford, baptized.
1662, Jan. 1. Elizabeth, daughter of William Alford, baptized.
1663 *or* '68, Feb. 21. Joseph, son of Joseph Alford, baptized.
1663, Mar. 25. Anne, daughter of Samuel Alford, baptized.
1663, May 5. Samuel, son of William Alford, baptized.
1664, Jan. 5. Joseph, son of Robert Alford, baptized.
1665, Jan. 7. Joseph, son of Robert Alford, buried.
1665, Jan. 29. Sarah, daughter of Samuel Alford, baptized.
1665, Sept. 6. John, son of John Alford, buried.
1666, Mar. 7. Joseph, son of Joseph Alford, buried.
1668, Jan. 8. Andrew, son of Samuel Alford, baptized.
1668, Mar. 14. Elizabeth, wife of Joseph Alford, buried.
1668, July 3. Joseph, son of Joseph Alford, buried.
1670, July 27. Joseph, son of Samuel Alford, baptized.
1670, Aug. 25. Elizabeth, daughter of John Alford, buried.
1686, Sept. 12. Joseph and William, sonnes of Mr. John Alford, baptized.
1697, Aug. 20. Mary, daughter of John Alford, buried.

[*Searched only as far as* 1700.]

REGISTERS OF CHARD, SOMERSET.

[*The result of a very incomplete search.*]

1673, Jan. 1. Bartholomew Alford, glover, buried.
1676, Feb. 3. Philipp Alford, taylor, buried.
1679. Jan. 18. Jane, wife of Andrew Alford, buried.
1680, Dec. 5. Alexander, son of Andrew Alford, buried.
1681, Jan. 5. Alexander Alford, buried.
1691, Jan. 7. Elizabeth Alford, widow, buried.
1705, Nov. 9. Francis Alford, gent., of Lime, buryed.
1784, June 20. William, son of John and Hannah Alford, baptized.

1787, May 20. Ann Alford, wife of Jno., buried.
1793, Mar. 31. Thomas Alford, buried.
1794, Jan. — Jane, daughter of John and Margaret Alford, baptized.
1800, Apr. 20. John, son of Mary Alford, baptized.

ABSTRACTS OF WILLS.

John Alforde of Winsham, Somerset, 1561, Feb. 6. "Holle and sound of mynde . . . bodie to be buryed in Holie Grave . . . John my sonne . . . . Richard my sonne . . . . Maude my wyfe . . . . to childer of my sonne John . . . to every of my childers childer one live sheepe." Remainder to my wyfe Maude, sole Executrix.
P.C.C. 4 *Streat.*

Agnes Alford of Chard, co. Somerset, widow, 1661. "My daughter Elizabeth Alford, to whom I leave all I possess, and whom I make sole Executrix." Proved at Wells, August 17, 1661.
Wells, Bishop's Court, No. xxi.

Robert Alford of Winsham, co. Somerset, 1666. To be buried there. "To the poore of Winsham . . . . My son Robert Alford shall hold and enjoy that tenement wherein his brother John Alford now dwells . . . . To my son William a house in Winsham . . . . My son Samuell . . . . My daughter Anne Edwards . . . . Anne Alford the daughter of my son John . . . . Residue to my sonne John sole Executor." *P.C.C.* 115 *Mico.*

Elizabeth Alford of Winsham, co. Somerset, October, 1673. Administration granted to her brothers John Alford and Joseph Alford, John Alford the father being dead, and Elizabeth Alford the mother renouncing.

Thomas Alford of Chard, co. Somerset, 1678. "My daughter Joane Alford. . . . My wife Joane Alford residuary legatee and Executrix." Will dated May 2nd, 1677. Proved March 8th, 1678.
Wells, Bishop's Court, No. xiii.

Robert Alford of Winsham, in the co. of Somerset, gent., 1725. "My daughter Martha Milverton, my late wife Sarah deceased . . . my daughter Catherine Alford . . . . my kinsman Edward Blagdon esq. . . . My estates to my son Robert Alford . . . . my kinswoman Mary Hingson. . . . My close called Harkwood in Winsham to my daughter Anne Horsey, widow, whom I appoint Executrix." (Testator married Sarah Blagdon in 1689.)
P.C.C. 105 *Romney.*

Joseph Alford of East Chinnocke, gent., 1742. Houses and lands at Yeovil to wife, Ann Alford. House and lands at Winsham.

Remainder after wife's death to Samuel Hood, son of his brother-in-law John Hood, subject to a payment to his mother of £12 yearly. Will dated March 2, 1733. Proved at Wells, May 4, 1742.
Wells Archdeaconry Court, No. xxxviii.

Philip Alford of Chard, Somerset, 1752. "To my wife Mary Alford the house in which I now dwell, and after her decease to my nephew Philip Alford Collins. . . . William Alford the younger. . . . Residue to my wife, whom I appoint sole Executrix."
P.C.C. 56 *Bettsworth.*

Robert Alford of Axbridge, Somerset, 1766. Stocking maker. Son Robert Alford; daughters Elizabeth, Mary, Ann; sons Francis, John, James, Thomas; each £50 at age of twenty-one, or on marriage. Residue to wife Elizabeth Alford. James Tuthill of Axbridge, Clerk, and Richard Tuthill of Huntspill, Clerk, Executors. Will dated June 24, 1765. Proved Jan. 13, 1766. (Seal with Arms of Symes.) *Wells Archdeaconry Court, No. iv.*

William Alford of Chard, in the co. of Somerset, Clothier, 1777. "To Thomas Collins and George Warry, gentlemen, of the same place, in trust, my dwelling-house with garden and outhouses, for Rebecca, wife of Philip Alford Collins. Amos Ashford, brother of the said Rebecca. . . . My nephew Samuel Alford Harbour, of Bridport . . . . my silver cup . . . . my silver tankard . . . . my silver beaker. . . . All the rest of my goods, furniture, plate, etc., to the said Samuel Alford Harbour and Rebecca Collins, equally."
P.C.C. 296 *Collier.*

Elizabeth Alford of Axbridge, Somerset, 1784. "To my son Francis the upper house adjoining the one in which I now live. To my daughter Elizabeth the corner house in which I now live, with a garden, and two houses adjoining. To my said daughter . . . . furniture . . . . silver cream jug . . . etc. To my daughter Mary Smith a pint cup of silver. To my daughter Ann Walker a silver pepper-box. My son James, my son Thomas, £50 each. To my son John a pair of silver salts. My son Thomas Alford . . . . Jonah Shortman and my relative Mr. James Tuthill, surgeon of Axbridge, Executors." Will dated Aug. 27, 1781. Proved July 6, 1784. [Testatrix was widow of Robert Alford.]
Wells Archdeaconry Court, No. iv.

The Alfords of Lyme Regis, Ottery, Escott, and FarBay.

THE Alfords were a family of some note in Lyme Regis from about 1600 to 1750, between which dates the name constantly occurs in the Town Records and the Church Registers. They were descended in two lines, as is shown in the pedigree Table, from the Alfords of Winsham, co. Somerset, the junior line forming the connection with Lyme a generation earlier than the senior, both lines alike being associated later with Escott in Talaton.

We commence with the elder line of the family, arising from John Alford of Winsham :—

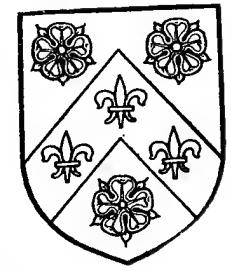
1. **Richard Alford** "of Lyme Regis" was born at Winsham, co. Somerset, in 1590, being the youngest son of "John Alford the elder" of that place. He came to Lyme as an apprentice, rising to be a merchant of note and wealth, and possessed of a "mansion and estate" called Haye, near to Uplyme, and just outside the town of Lyme Regis. He married *Margaret*, the daughter of Mr. *Gregorie*, a well-known townsman and Mayor of Lyme, by whom he had seven children, of whom only three out-lived him, these being :—

   i. *Gregorie Alford*, of whom next (**2**).

   ii. *Christian*, married Timothy Hallett (afterwards Vicar of Lyme on the presentation of Gregorie her brother in 1663), and had five children.

Table VIII.

Alford of Lyme Regis, Dorset; and of Ottery, Escott, and Farway, Devon.



John Alford, senior, of Winsham; d. 1585; m. *Agnes*. [See TABLE VII.]

- John Alford, of Winsham, bur. there 1639; m. *Joan*.
  - 1. Richard Alford, b. 1590, at Winsham; Mayor of Lyme Regis, 1627, later of Escott in Talaton; will 1658; m. (1), *Margaret Gregorie*; (2) *Mary*.
    - 2. Gregory Alford, b. 1620, at Hay, Uplyme; Mayor of Lyme Regis; admon. 1697; m. (1) *Mary Burridge*; (2) *Anne*.
      - 3. Gregory Alford, b. 1645, at Uplyme, afterwards of Farway, Devon, where he d. 1693.
        - Gregory Alford, b. 1670; d. 1672.
        - Thomas Alford, b. 1672.
        - Marmaduke Alford, b. 1675.
      - William Alford, of Lyme Regis; b. 1650; m. 1682 *Grace James*.
        - William Alford, of Lyme Regis; b. 1683; m. *Alice Cox*.
          - William Alford.
          - John Alford.
          - *Betty*.
    - *Christian*, m. Timothy Hallett, Vicar of Lyme Regis.
    - Richard Alford, b. 1662; of Escott in Talaton, gent.; m. 1650, *Ursula Drewe*, grand-dau. of John Symes, of Poundisford Park, co. Som.
      - Richard Alford, b. 1656; d. 1665, at Escott.
      - Francis Alford, b. 1658; d. 1659, at Escott.
      - Francis Alford, b. 1659, at Escott; d. 1705, at Chard.
      - *Mary*, b. 1663; d. 1665.
      - George Alford, b. 1665.
      - Richard Alford, b. 1667.
  - Robert Alford, etc.

    A quo ALFORD OF WINSHAM. TABLE VII.
- *Joan*, m. 1584, Robt. Batine, at Winsham.
- 4. William Alford, b. 1562, at Winsham, Som., afterwards of Lyme Regis; m. (2), 1626, *Susannah Heckes*; will 1641.
  - 5. William Alford, of Lyme Regis, Dorset, gent., Merchant; will 1648; Mayor in 1662.
    - 6. Melchisedeck Alford, b. 1623, at at Lydlinch, Dorset; will 1689; Vicar of Ottery S Mary. m. 1650, at Lydlinch, *Elizabeth*, d. Rich. Channon, of Escott in Talaton.
      - Richard Alford, b. 1653; d. 1654, at Escott in Talaton.
      - *Margaret*, b. 1654, at Escott in Talaton.
      - *Elizabeth*, b. 1659, at Escott in Talaton.
  - George Alford, of Lyme Regis, 1649, &c.; d. 1656; m. *Sarah*.
    - George Alford, of Lyme Regis; m. *Judith*; d. about 1700; she in 1706.
    - Robert Alford, of Lyme Regis, in 1658; d. 1678; bur. at Uplyme.

iii. *Richard Alford*, junior, of Escott in Talaton, the lease of which his father left him by Will, was born at Haye, and baptized at Uplyme in 1622. He matriculated at Lincoln College, Oxford, in 1640, and in 1650 married Ursula, daughter of William Drewe, Esq., of the Grange, Honiton, and granddaughter of Mr. John Symes, of Poundisford Park, Somerset. He had a "mansion" in Ottery St. Mary, but from 1655 to 1667 lived at Escott, during which period the baptism of six children, and the burial of three of them, are recorded in the Talaton Registers. The surviving children were:—

1. *Francis Alford*, who was born at Escott in 1659, and died at Chard in 1705, being described as "Gent. of Lime".
2. *George Alford*, born 1665 at Escott; and
3. *Richard Alford*, born 1667 at Escott, of whom no further record is found.

There are numerous references to Richard Alford in the Registers and the Town Records, where his name first appears in 1621. He did his duty both in a civil and in a military capacity, being admitted to the Town Council in 1625, becoming a magistrate, and occupying the Mayoral Chair in 1627, 1628, 1629, 1630, 1631, and again in 1636, and once more in 1653. He was also Captain of Militia, and as such must have seen some service. The *House of Commons Journal* records his giving evidence before the Committee for the Safety of Lyme (see below). In the siege of Lyme by Prince Maurice, 1644, Richard Alford's house at Haye became one of the outposts, from which, however, the Parliamentary garrison was soon driven back into Lyme, and the house occupied by Prince Maurice as the Royalist head quarters. The Royalists were eventually repulsed, and Richard Alford was taken

prisoner as "a determined Royalist" by the Parliamentary Governor, and sent "as a malignant and desperate one" by ship to Portsmouth; but on the voyage the vessel was taken by a King's ship, and Richard Alford was released. One of his own ships, the *George*, was destroyed during these troublous times, and the Governor granted him, instead, a Dutch prize-ship, the *St. Sebastian*. His house and estate at Haye was sequestered, but eventually restored to him. He took a lease in 1664 of Escott in Talaton, an estate a few miles from Lyme Regis, but in the co. of Devon, where Margaret, his first wife, died. "After the troubles" he returned to Lyme, and was again Mayor (as already noted) in 1653, at the close of which year he, as Deputy Mayor, took the first marriage recorded in the existing Lyme Registers. He died in 1658, aged 68, and was buried in the vestibule, now the baptistery, of Lyme Regis Church. His Will is given below.

The impropriation of the rectorial tithes of Lyme belonged to Richard Alford; this he left by Will to the Mayor and Corporation of the town. To his widow, Mary Alford, and ultimately to his son, Richard Alford, junior, he left his "Mansion and Estate of Haye". "Parc Close" formed part of the estate on which now stands "Park House", or "Little Park". Hay Farm lies near Hay House, which has been rebuilt. "Mary Alford, widow, of Haye", is mentioned in the Town Records between 1660 and 1670. She died at Haye in 1672. His son, Gregory Alford, was his father's executor and residuary legatee.

Richard Alford of Lyme Regis, co. Dorset, merchant, 1658. "To Mary my lovinge wife my mansion of Hay, with orchards, garden,

stables, etc. . . . . meadows called Hay, Parc Close, Long Meadow, etc., all belonging to the said mansion . . . . also plate, linen, furniture . . . . and after her decease to my youngest sonne Richard . . . . Lands not otherwise disposed of to Gregory Alford my oldest sonne, and to his heires male. For default to Richard my youngest sonne, and on his decease to Richard Alford my grandchild . . . . Francis, second sonne of my sonne Richard . . . . My cosen Melchisedec Alford of Culmestock, Devon, clerk . . . . Lease of mansion and lands called Escott, in the parishe of Tallaton, and mansion in Ottery St. Mary, to my sonne Richard and Ursula his wife and their children . . . . My cosens John Alford the elder, and Joseph Alford the elder, both of Winsham in the county of Somerset . . . . My Mannor of Stoke Cannon in the county of Devon . . . . Lands in Winsham, Somerset, and Thorncombe, Devon, and Halstock, Dorset . . . . To Mayor and Corporation of Lyme . . . . My sister Joane Wembry . . . . My cosen Mary, wife of Francis Wells . . . . My five grandchildren the issue of Christian Hallett my daughter, deceased . . . . To the poore of Winsham . . . . my sonne Gregory Alford, sole Executor."

P.C.C. 194 *Wootton.*

2. Gregory Alford, after the death of his father, Richard Alford, senior, became the most prominent man of that date in Lyme Regis. He was the eldest son of the above Richard Alford and Margaret Gregorie his wife, and was born at Haye in 1620, and baptized at Uplyme Church. He followed in his father's steps as a firm Royalist, and as an active soldier and citizen, his name being first mentioned in 1642. His early experiences must have made him well acquainted with military matters, the severe siege of Lyme by the Royalists under Prince Maurice occurring in 1644, when he was 24 years old. His home, Haye House, was used as the head quarters of the Royalist army. Gregory Alford "fought against the Parliament", whose forces held possession of Lyme, and the Royalists being repulsed, his father was imprisoned and his own property sequestered. Gregory Alford's name appears in Tring's *Catalogue*, amongst those "malignants" who compounded for their estates.

The mention of his "return" to Lyme implies that he had been obliged for a time to absent himself, and his narrative of *The Flight of the King* states that he went to Portugal.

He married *Mary Burridge*, daughter of a prominent merchant and magistrate of Lyme, by whom he had three children :—

i. *Gregory Alford*, of whom next (**3**).

ii. *Joan*, born in 1646, died unmarried in 1666.

iii. *William Alford*, of Lyme Regis, was born in 1650. He married *Grace James* in 1682, by whom he had three children :—

1. *William Alford*, born 1683, who married *Alice Cox*, and having three children, William, John, and Betty, continued the Lyme Regis family through another generation.
2. *John Alford*, born at Lyme in 1686.
3. *Sarah*, born 1688, who in 1712 married *Roger Owesley*, and died at Lyme in 1743.

We are unable to trace the family further.

In 1661 Gregory Alford was admitted a member of the Town Council ; soon afterwards he became Captain of Militia ; and for many years took a prominent part in both civil and military matters. He was particularly severe upon the Dissenters, who were then regarded as disloyal both to Church and State. In 1663, owing chiefly to Gregory Alford's "interference", Mr. Short, the Vicar, who was that way affected, was "obliged to absent himself". On Mr. Short's deprivation, which followed in the same year, Gregory Alford, having succeeded to the patronage of the living, presented Emanuel Sharp ; and on Mr. Sharp's speedy resignation, presented to the vicarage Timothy Hallett, who had married his sister, Christian Alford. During this year,

1663, Gregory Alford was Mayor of Lyme Regis, and from his accounts as Mayor we find that he invited his cousin Melchisedec Alford, vicar of Ottery St. Mary, to preach at Lyme, apparently upon some public occasion. These accounts are of interest as including not only the fees for preaching sermons, and the salary of the Town Clerk, but also the salary of a gunner, the purchase of a barrell of powder, the repair of the cobb, and 16 gallons of Canary wine. A "memorandum of armament under Captain Gregory Alford", of about the same date, speaks of twelve-pounders, four-pounders, and culverins. The persecution of "Dissenters" continued, and Alford reported to Sir L. Jenkins, Secretary of State, his capture of thirty men and eighty women in the head conventicle at Lyme—"having broken the doors which were strongly barricaded". "To-morrow", he writes, "I shall be upon the Quakers and Anabaptists."

In 1666 the Council Minute Book records the committal by Gregory Alford of thirteen persons "for keeping of a Conventicle". In 1667, July 20, Gregorie Alford wrote a letter to the Duke of Richmond concerning some doings at Lyme on June 15, which were regarded as questionable, if not disloyal, and reporting on the preparations for defence in case the Dutch Fleet should attack the town (see below). The Duke of Richmond was at that time Lord-Lieutenant of the county, and had been admitted to the freedom of Lyme Regis in 1665. A list of the Town Council in 1670 includes the name of Gregory Alford.

In 1673 he lost his wife, but afterwards married a second time, "Gregory Alford and Anne his wife" being mentioned in a Corporation Order of later date. A letter that he wrote to King Charles II, in 1681, shows that his loyalty had not abated, and, in 1684, he wrote a narrative —so far as he was aware of the circumstances—of the flight of King Charles II after the Battle of Worcester, the original manuscript being in the Pepys Collection, Magdalene College, Cambridge. In 1685, being again Mayor, he took an active part on King James's side, concerning the landing of the Duke of Monmouth. The extracts on this matter from Macaulay's *History of England* (see below) are the chief cause of public interest in Gregory Alford's life. A warrant of 1686 mentions Gregory as still Captain of the Militia. In 1689 "Mr. Gregory Alford" is rated as a townsman, and again in 1694 and 1695. He died at Lyme in 1697, aged 77, and was buried in the Western porch or vestibule, now the baptistery, of Lyme Regis Church. Gregory Alford is described as "armiger" in the *Dorset Administrations.* There was formerly a flat stone covering the grave bearing his name and arms—"Or, on a chevron azure between three roses three fleurs-de-lis argent". These arms, which have been since inaccurately painted amongst others on a screen close to the spot, were evidently the origin of the arms of the Somersetshire Alford family.

Gregory Alford died intestate, and the following grants are recorded:—

"*Gregory Alford* of Lyme Regis, in the co. of Dorset, Merchant, 1701. Died intestate 1697. Letters of Administration granted February 1701 to Annie Alford, his widow." *P.C.C. Act Books.*

"*Gregory Alford*, Armiger, of Lyme Regis, Adm. granted to

Thomas Glyn, principal Creditor, Ann the relict renouncing, 26 February 1701." *Dorset Administrations, P.C.C, fo.* 24.

3. Gregory Alford, the elder son of Gregory Alford and Mary his wife, was born at Lyme Regis in 1645. He left Lyme for Farway, in Devonshire, near to Ottery St. Mary, and to Escott in Talaton, at both of which places his relatives had property. Here he died in 1693, four years before his father's death, leaving three children :—

i. *Gregory Alford*, who died as an infant in 1672.
ii. *Thomas Alford*, who perhaps returned to Lyme and died there in 1739.
iii. *Marmaduke Alford*, of whom no information has been discovered.

We now return to the junior line of the Lyme Regis family :—

4. William Alford, younger son of John Alford, senior, of Winsham, was born at Winsham in 1562. He was apparently the first of the Alford family who settled in Lyme, doubtless as a merchant, at the close of the sixteenth century. He seems to have taken no part in public matters, but left two sons, who both did good service in that respect :—

i. *William Alford*, of whom next (**5**).
ii. *George Alford*, senior, of Lyme Regis. He is mentioned in the Town Records in 1649, also in 1655 and 1656. In this latter year he died at Lyme; his widow, *Sarah* Alford, being mentioned in 1657. They left two sons :—
    1. *George Alford*, junior, is mentioned in the Town Records in 1658, and he is spoken of as "Mr. George Alford", in 1662. He was Churchwarden of Lyme Regis in 1663, his signature attesting the induction of Timothy Hallett as Vicar, appointed by the

latter's brother-in-law, Gregory Alford. George Alford was a member of the Corporation from 1666 to 1671. He was still living in 1696, when there is mention of "George Alford and *Judith* his wife". Her death, as a widow, is recorded in 1706.

2. *Robert Alford*, who, together with his brother, was witness to a marriage in 1658. He died in 1678, and was buried at Uplyme.

Losing his first wife, William Alford married a second time, in 1626, at South Perrott. This second wife, *Susannah Heckes*, survived her husband, who died intestate at Lyme Regis in 1641. Administration was granted as follows :—

"*William Alford*, of Lime Regis, co. Dorset, 1641, November 6. Administration of the goods of William Alford was granted to Susannah the relict. Value of Inventory £468."

Somerset House, Room 32, *Dean of Sarum, lib. xiv, fo.* 33.

5. William Alford, junior, was the elder son of the above-mentioned William Alford, senior. He is described as "of Lyme Regis, Dorset, Gentleman". He is the first of the family mentioned in the ancient records of the town, his signature appearing on an Indenture dated 1618. He was admitted as a member of the Town Council in 1627, and in 1632 filled the office of Mayor. His name also appears in the Town Records in 1636, 1642, and 1647. He had some connection with Lydlynch, near Blandford, probably having married a lady of that place, for his only surviving son, Melchisedeck Alford (of whom next), was born there. The Rector of Lydlinch at that time being Melchisedeck Waltham, it may be supposed that that notable member of the Alford family was named after him. William Alford died at Lyme, in 1648, and, having died intestate, administration was granted as follows :—

"*William Alford*, of Lyme Regis, co. Dorset, 1648, November 18. Administration of the goods of William Alford was granted to Melchisedec Alford, the lawful son of the said deceased."
Somerset House, Room 32, *Dean of Sarum, lib. xiv, f.* 106.

6. Melchisedeck Alford, born at Lydlinch, near Blandford, Dorset, in 1623, was the only son of William Alford, junior, merchant, and Mayor of Lyme Regis. He matriculated at Christ Church, Oxford, in 1641, aged 18, but was expelled during the Great Rebellion, on account of his active support of the Royalist party. Having thus thrown his lot altogether in with the Royalists, in 1646, at the age of 23, he acted as Treasurer to the Royalist Garrison at Exeter, when that place was besieged by the Rebels. Here Samuel and Richard Alford, probably his relatives, were merchants. He carried messages to the King at Oxford, and assisted in seizing the youthful Duke of Gloucester—Henry, third son of Charles I. In 1648, William Alford of Lyme Regis died, Melchisedeck Alford his son, now aged 25, taking out letters of administration. Melchisedeck had by this time returned to Oxford, and in the same year took his B.A. degree. Two years later, at the age of 27, he married "*Elizabeth*, only daughter and heiress of Richard *Channon*, the owner of Escott in Tallaton", the marriage taking place at Lydlinch, near Blandford, Dorset.

Their eldest child, *Richard*, was born at Escott, in 1653, but died a year later; and in this year, Melchisedeck Alford seems to have taken Holy Orders.

In 1654, the birth of a daughter, *Margaret*, at Escott, is recorded in the Talaton Register, and Melchisedeck Alford is entered as "Clerk". He now left Escott—

Richard Alford's (junior) family occupying the Mansion—and was for a time Curate in Charge of Dunsford,* near Exeter. A year or two later he moved to Culmestock,† Devonshire; for in 1658 he is mentioned in the will of Mr. Richard Alford, of Escott, as "Clerk, of Culmestock". Here, apparently, his third child, *Elizabeth*, was born in 1659.

In 1661, at the Restoration, Melchisedeck Alford was presented to the vicarage of Ottery St. Mary, and instituted on March 20th. Though of small value, it was a living of considerable importance, with a magnificent Church built on the plan of Exeter Cathedral.

In 1663, as "Vicar of Ottery", he preached Corporation sermons at Lyme Regis, his cousin, Gregory Alford, being Mayor.

In 1680, Melchisedeck Alford joined with his wife, who was the heiress of the Channons, and with his two daughters and heiresses, Margaret and Elizabeth Alford, in the sale of Escott, Gregory Alford, of Lyme, being a Trustee in the Conveyance.

In 1684, Margaret Alford was witness to the death of Mr. Cottle, of Talaton.

Melchisedeck Alford, "Clerk, of Ottery St. Mary", died at the age of 66, and was buried at Ottery on August 10, 1689. His will follows :—

Melchisedeck Alford, of Ottery St. Mary, Devon, Clerk, 1689. "To my daughter Margaret Alford, £400 . . . . To my daughter, Elizabeth Alford, £200 . . . . . To the poor of the parish of Ottery St. Mary, £5 . . . . I recommend to my wife the

* The Dunsford Parish Registers of this date are imperfect and give no information.

† The Culmestock Registers "are in a most dilapidated condition. From 1650 to 1661 there is no name of any Vicar or Curate".

enlargement of the portions given by me to my said daughters, as shall seem convenient for her to doe . . . . the Residue of my Estate to Elizabeth my wife, whom I appoint Sole Executrix." Will dated August 7, proved September 28, 1689, by Elizabeth Alford, Reliet. *P.C.C.* 118 *Ent.*

The OTTERY ST. MARY Register Book No. 4 contains thirty-eight signatures :—

An original letter, also bearing his signature, is extant.

The Bishop's Transcripts in the Exeter Diocesan Registry, for Ottery St. Mary, 1685, are also thus signed.

References of more or less interest concerning Melchisedeck Alford are found in Walker's *Sufferings of the Clergy*, Part II, p. 109 ; Polwhele's *Devonshire*, Vol. II, p. 271 ; and the Ottery St. Mary *Guide Book.*

"Melchisedeck Alford was a true loyalist, a man of very bright and excellent parts, and author of those well-known lines :—

> 'Louvra Domus ; Dominus Ludovicus ; Regia Rege
> Digna suo : Cælo est hæc minor, ille Deo',

which he made extempore in a company who were criticising the inscription set up over the gate of the Louvre, beginning 'Non nobis gentem'."

"Being never rewarded for his services after the Restoration, Melchisedeck Alford died in 1689 possessed of no greater preferment than the poor vicarage of Autery in Devon. His wife survived him many years,

and her memory is preserved in the remarkable Will of Mr. Axe."

In the porch of the church at Ottery St. Mary there is a tablet recording some bequests of Mr. Axe, by his Will dated June 20, 1691, derived from property at Blandford, Dorset. This shows again that Mrs. Alford was known in the neighbourhood of Blandford—at Lydlinch. One bequest is "to some man or woman of exemplary life and skill who shall help the poor of Ottery gratis in case of sickness, or accident, the Vicar's wife before any other if she shall be very fit, or as fit as Mrs. Alford, the late Vicar's wife".

ESCOTT HOUSE was rebuilt "by Sir Walter Yonge soon after his purchase of the Estate in 1680. This second house was one of the most distinguished mansions of the neighbourhood, and was built by Inigo Jones. King George III, with three of the Princesses, visited Sir George Yonge (the Secretary of War) there in 1789. This splendid mansion passed into the possession of Sir John Kennaway in 1794, and was destroyed by fire in 1808."

"Estcote, a very beautiful and well-wooded estate, was possest by the family of Chalons. The last heiress of Chalon married Melchisedeck Alford, whose only descendants joined with Alford in selling Escot to Sir Walter Yonge, Bart., 1680." (Polwhele's *Devonshire.*)

Extract from Sir G. Yonge's papers.—"Mar. 10, 1680. 33 Car. II. Bargain and Sale from Melchisedeith [*sic*] Alford and Elizabeth his wife (sole daughter of Richard Channon deceased), Margaret Alford and Elizabeth

Alford daughters and heiresses of the said Melchisedeith Alford by the said Elizabeth Alford his wife, to Sir Walter Yonge, of Colyton, Bart., in fee of Escott, £3,450. Conveyance from Gregory Alford to Richard Duke, Esquire, in trust for Sir Walter Yonge."

About four miles from Ottery St. Mary, and about seven from Escott, lies FARWAY, where Gregory Alford's family lived, and where his eldest son, Gregory Alford, died in 1693. Here too, in 1738, Frances Alford, widow of Thomas Alford, Vicar of Curry Rivel, Somersetshire, died and was buried. This fact has caused some confusion as to the relationship of the Somerset and Dorset branches of the family. An explanation of the circumstance is found in the marriage of Lætitia, eldest daughter of Thomas and Frances Alford, of Curry Rivel and Weston Zoyland, to Mr. Gould, Rector of Farway. After the death of Thomas Alford, Frances, his widow, moved to Farway, that she might be near her daughter, Mrs. Gould. (See High Ham Registers.)

Between 1657 and 1661 a *Joseph Alford* is frequently mentioned in the Cobb Accounts (the Cobb being an ancient stone pier protecting the tidal harbour) as trading with Lyme Regis. He was presumably one of the Winsham Alfords.

From 1657 to 1693, in which latter year he died at Lyme, the name of one *John Alford* constantly occurs in the same way. He is called a "foreigner", *i.e.*, not a townsman of Lyme, and was apparently one of the Bridport family.

EXTRACTS FROM THE LYME REGIS TOWN RECORDS.

[*Made by the Compiler in* 1890.]

1618. An Indenture bears the signature "William Alford".
1621. A Subsidy Roll includes "Mr. Richard Alford of Hay".
1625. Richard Alford was admitted to the Town Council.
1627. William Alford was admitted to the Town Council.
1627. Richard Alford's accounts as Mayor, including "Captain Alford's (*i.e.*, Richard Alford) account of Almshouse Charity".
1628. "3rd Charles I, Richard Alford, maior."
1629. Constant mention of "Richard Alford, mayor".
1630. "Mr. Richard Alford, maior of Lyme."
1631. Frequent mention of "Richard Alford, mayor".
1632. "William Alford, mayor."
1633. Corporation Order. "Mr. Richard Alford having built a house on the Cobb, without any leave or direction of the Mayor, is to take a lease upon three lives of his own nomination, and to pay a fine of £5, and four shillings yearly rent, or else the house is to be pulled down."
1636. The signature occurs "Richard Alford, maior".
1642. A Rate list includes Richard Alford, William Alford, and Gregorie Alford.
1647. Mention of Richard Alford and Mr. William Alford.
1647. Poor Rate. "Rebeka Alford pd. 1*s.* 6*d.*"
1649. An Indenture of January 15 in the 24th year of King Charles I. "Richard Alford, Justice of the Peace."
1649. A list includes Richard Alford and George Alford.
1653. Two warrants issued by Richard Alford, Mayor.
1655. Rate list. "Richard Alford." "Geo. Alford for his house."
1657. Accounts. Mention of—"Sa. Alforde." "Joseph Alford; John Alford; Richard Alford."
1658. Mention of Richard Alford.
1659. "Gregorie Alford, as Executor under his father's will, had a suit with the Corporation concerning a Mortgage."
1661. "Gregory Alford, Merchant, was admitted to the Councill of this Town, and thereunto sworn, the 26th day of August."
1661. The Cobb Accounts mention Gregorie Alford, Joseph Alford, and John Alford.
1662. "Mr. George Alford; Mr. Gregorie Alford; Mrs. Mary Alford."
1662. "Mr. Alford presented the Living of Lyme to Emanuel Sharp."
1663. Indentures. "George Alford, Churchwarden". "Gregory Alford, Esq., Mayor." "Mary Alford, of Haye, Widdow."

1663. Mayor's Accounts. "Gregory Alford, Mayor." "Dec. 24. Paid to Mr. Melchisedec Alford for preaching two sermons £1." "Feb. 1, for a Hogshead of Clarett in Mr. Alford's Mayoralty, £6."

1665. "17th of Charles II. The Duke of Richmond was admitted to the freedom of the Town, Joseph Ellesdon being Mayor."

1666. Minute Book of Council. "Present—Gregory Alford, George Alford."

1666. "Appeared Captayne Gregory Alford before us, and committed the persons hereunder written for keeping of a Conventicle att ye house of one John Creed.

"For the offense we fine you—Thomas Murford . . . . 6*s.* 8*d.*; John Creed . . . . 6*d.*; Wm. Poole . . . . 6*d.* (and ten others); or be put to prison twentie dayes."

Minute Book, Feb. 11.

1667. Accounts mention—Rebecca Alford. Mary Alford, widow George Alford. Gregory Alford.

1667. Accounts mentioning John Alford.

1670. List of Council—"George Alford, Gregory Alford."

1671. Rate list includes George Alford.

1676. Accounts. "John Alford" several times.

1679. Accounts include John Alford's name.

1684. "Captain Alford's account to the Towne of Lyme. To John Alford, a foreigner, for Powder £5 16*s.*"

1684. "Captain Alford and Solomon Andrew are to be furnished with £100 to wait on the King and get a new charter."

1686. "Warrant to the Mayer of the Borrough of Lyme Regis, Captain Gregory Alford, and other officers, concerning musters of Militia."

1687. A Rent roll mentions George Alford.

1689. Rate List. "Mr. Gregory Alford. Mr. George Alford. Mr. William Alford."

1690. Corporation Order Book. "That Gregory Alford and Ann his wife should redeem the estate upon the parsonages of Halstock and Lyme Regis."

1692. Corporation Order Book. Mention of a suit in Chancery carried on against Gregory Alford and Anne his wife "to recover £800 with interest advanced upon the security of the Livings of Halstock and Lyme".

1694. Rates. "Mr. Gregory Alford £1."

1696. "George Alford and Judith his wife." "William Alford."

EXTRACTS FROM "STATE PAPERS, DOMESTIC", ETC.

1621. "Samuel Alford, merchant, of Exeter, petitioned the Council of James I concerning a law-suit between himself and Thomas Guille of Guernsey, which had lasted twenty years. Alford was freed from the cost of appeal. *State Papers, Domestic.*

1627. "Richard Alford of Lyme joins in a petition to Buckingham." *State Papers, Domestic.*

1628. "Richard Alford, merchant, of Exeter, joins in a petition to the King." *State Papers, Domestic.*

1649. "Petition to the Commissioners for compounding with the Delinquents. Original Letter, signed, 'Gregory Alford'." *Royalist Composition Papers, 2nd Series, vol.* 41, *pp.* 261-266.

1652. Order "to deliver the Dutch prize-ship the 'St. Sebastian' to Richard Alford, in lieu of his ship 'the George', which was dismantled and sunk." *State Papers, Domestic.*

1665. October 25. "Petition of Captain Gregory Alford for reimbursement of £4,867 disbursed by him in His Majesty's Service. Recommended strongly to the Lord Chancellor." *State Papers, Domestic.*

FROM THE HOUSE OF COMMONS JOURNALS.

1643. Vol. xiv. The Committee "to consider how Mr. Harvey might be reimbursed for the moneys he had laid out on the garrison of Lyme, and in bringing up Mr. Alford".

1644. "Mr. Richard Alford attended and gave evidence before the Committee for the safety of Lyme and Poole."

FROM ROBERTS'S "HISTORY OF LYME REGIS".

Some account of the most distinguished families of Lyme :—

"*Alford.* Richard Alford, merchant, was Mayor in 1627; the fifth time in 1652. Gregory Alford fought against the Parliament, and compounded for his estates at £10. He returned to Lyme, where he was very severe in his treatment of dissenters, at that period all politicians as well as religionists. During his second and last Mayoralty, Monmouth landed. The family soon after left Lyme." (p. 294.)

"Richard Alford. The impropriation belonged to him. He was a determined Royalist. His son Gregory fought against the Parliament, which caused his father to be imprisoned. On his voyage to Portsmouth the vessel was taken by a King's ship, and he was released." (*Another edition*, p. 179.)

Prince Maurice "would not release Mr. Harvey, brother-in-law of the Governor, who had been taken prisoner when conveying Mr. Alford, a merchant of the Town, supposed to be a malignant and a desperate one, prisoner to Portsmouth". (p. 86.)

"Mr. Short, the Vicar, was in 1662 sequestered for non-conformity, and immediately formed a Society of Independents. The sufferers during the Rebellion avenged themselves after the Restoration upon the dissenters. Mr. Gregory Alford was particularly distinguished; owing to his interference, Mr. Short was obliged to absent himself." (p. 121.)

"The Rev. Amos Short preached to a small congregation, for whom, at his first coming to Lyme, he had drawn up 'Articles for the right ordering their conversation'. Mr. Gregory Alford, one of the Magistrates, sent these to the King and Council in 1668." (p. 220.)

"Monmouth came ashore with some order. The Mayor, Mr. Gregory Alford, set off to Exeter, where the Duke of Albemarle had arrived with a strong force, and dispatched messengers to the King." (p. 128.)

FROM HUTCHINS'S "HISTORY OF DORSET".

Lyme Regis. "The impropriation, consisting of the Tithe of grain, belonged to Mr. Richard Alford." "Hay, a hamlet. In 1645, Mr. Richard Alford, of Lyme, his farm at Hay, valued at £100, was sequestered." (*Vol.* ii, *p.* 260.)

Halstock. "The return of the Commission, 1650, was that the impropriation belonged to Richard Alford, of Lyme Regis, Gent., and was worth £148 per annum." (*Vol.* iv, *p.* 464.)

"Gregory Alford's letter was read in the House of Lords, and appears in their Journal of that date." (*Vol.* ii, *p.* 61.)

"Patrons and Vicars of the Church of Lyme:—

Gregory Alford—Emanuel Sharp, on the deprivation of Short. Instituted 19th February 1662.

Timothy Hallet (by cession). Instituted 10th February 1663."

FROM THE PEPYS MSS., MAGDALENE COLLEGE, CAMBRIDGE.

Amongst these is "the original Manuscript of Captain Alford, Mayor of Lyme", giving, as "The Lord Keeper of the Great Seal of England desired me, an account of what I knew of his Majesty's (Charles II) most miraculous escape, and the great danger he passed through, after he came from Worcester". (Sept. 1651.) *The Flight of the King*, by Alan Fea, 1897, republishes this Narrative, and says:--"Captain Alford's story is from the Tanner *MSS.* in the Bodleian Library (Oxford), and appeared for the first time in print in Cary's *Memorials of the Great Civil War*, 1842. Though this account contains many errors—the author, a Merchant, and afterwards Mayor of Lyme Regis, being abroad at the time of the King's unsuccessful expedition to Charmouth—it is too interesting a document to be ignored."

The Narrative runs:—"His Majesty came to that loyal Gentleman's house, Sir Francis Windham, of Trent, in the co. of Somerset, ... and sent him to consult with Colonel Giles Strangways as to his escape. They thought that about Lyme there would be some convenient place . . . . . for his Majesty's embarkation . . . . . if they could find a man that might be trusted. Then the Colonel advised that Captain Alford, whom his Majesty knew well, might be entrusted. So one Peters, a servant of Sir Francis Windham, was sent to find Captain Alford—who was then in Portugal, forced to be abroad by reason of his loyalty." Failing to embark at Charmouth, "the King stopped in Bridport", the King pretending to be the groom to his friends. "The ostler at the Inn took notice of the pretended groom, and told him that he was formerly a soldier, and urged upon the King that he had seen him in Exeter, insomuch that the King was forced to tell him that he had lived in Exeter with one Mr. George Potter, and had been his groom. The ostler replied that he knew well Mr. Potter, and Captain Alford that married Mr. Potter's daughter. So they drank lovingly together."

Two very interesting books, *The Flight of the King*, and *King Monmouth*, by Allan Fea, 1902, unfortunately fail in accuracy with reference to the Alford family. The "Narrative of Captain Alford" in the former is ascribed in the latter to Richard Alford, who was dead when it was written, in 1684, by his son Gregory. The groom's statement that he knew Captain Alford and Mr. George Potter, whose daughter he had married, is also erroneous; the marriage being probably that of Richard Alford, of Exeter.

The quotation of p. 297 of *King Monmouth* is from the entry in the Weston Zoyland Register Book, by Richard Alford, the direct forefather of the compiler. (See Table IX, and Notes.)

BRITISH MUSEUM ADD. MSS., 21,947, f. 105.*

Letter of Gregorie Alford to the Duke of Richmond, 1667:—

"Lyme Regis, 20 July 1667.

"May it please your Grace,

"I humbly beg your pardon for not waiting on your Grace at Dorchester with the Mayor and the rest of my brethren, but considering the dangerousness of the tymes, thought it not convenient to be wanting, seeing there was a necessity of my Liftenant being with you, for that he was present here the 15th of June. We are all confident that your Grace hath given the King and Counsell a good account of that business.

"Tuesday last we had notice from Plymouth that the Dutch appeared there, whereuppon we put ourselves in armes here, not knowing by change of winde what attempt they might make here; Wednesday morning we espyed 12 sayle of vessells standing to the West, three Leagues into sea, we judged them at last to be English, seeing a Ketch to be in their company, soe that we made a fyer, but finding that would not call them backe, we sent out a nymble boat with sayles and oares, and gave a good charge to one of our best guns, the report whereof made them to look about, and espyed our boat which made to them and gave them notice of the Dutch ffleet being in the West, on which the hawl-ketch with 8 guns ranne in here with 8 loaden vessells more, the rest were soe far in the offen that we doubt what may become of them.

"We have made a chayne of ankers without the Cobb-mouth, soe firme that we hope no vessell can come in to hurt us. We have day and night 200 men in armes for that the Dutch ffleet are now in sight, 3 leagues off, due South from us; yesterday we told 48 of them. Sir John Stroude and Colonel Byshopp have appointed two companies to come to us upon notice from us. Our Mayor and Magistrates have been careful to provide in good store of ammunition, and, I must assure your Grace, are very careful in this tyme of danger. I wish the whole kingdom were soe well provided, and in soe good a posture to resist their enemyes as we are.

"Your Grace's most humble and obedient servant,

"GRE. ALFORD."

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* This letter was erroneously catalogued as "Giles Alford's letter", but is clearly signed "Gre. Alford".

[The explanation of this letter, the first part of which caused me great perplexity, appears from the Record Office *State Papers Domestic*, Chas. II, 1667, p. 188, etc. "The Dutch War. London. June 15, the English Fleet burned and captured at Chatham by the Dutch." "The French Fleet appeared before the Isle of Wight." "Immense excitement, especially on the South Coast." "The Militia are preparing." Then see p. 272. July 6, 1667. Lyme. Letter of A. Thorold. "A gentleman living near here has reported to Council that June 15 was kept as a day of rejoicing, much feasting and shooting of small guns." This, in the face of the public danger and alarm recorded above, seemed to be a serious ground of complaint--it appeared treasonable. The Mayer and Corporation were called to account. "Sir John Strode and Colonel Bishop, Deputy Lieutenants, were sent to make enquiries. The Informer could not prove any point of his charge, which was mainly false." The satisfactory explanation was that the people of Lyme, in ignorance of the national disaster and danger, kept June 15 as a day of rejoicing—"being the day on which 22 or 23 years since Prince Maurice raised the siege of Lyme." The Mayor and Corporation then visited Dorchester to explain the matter to the Duke of Richmond, who was Lord Lieutenant of the County, Gregory Alford, though a Member of the Corporation, remaining at his post at Lyme as Captain of the Militia, and afterwards writing the above letter to his Grace. The conclusion of the enquiry was that "the Lord Lieutenant, the Duke of Richmond, came to Lyme and was handsomely received by the Mayor and his Brethren. He dined with the Mayor".—J. G. A.]

FROM ROBERTS' "LIFE OF THE DUKE OF MONMOUTH".

"Mr. Gregory Alford, one of the Corporation of Lyme Regis, wrote to the King (Charles II), on 9 April 1681, to say that the day before, about ten miles west of Lyme, he was overtaken by Mr. Edmund Gibbons, a Cromwellite, who was in company with the Earl of Stamford. He said he came from Oxford after the Parliament was dissolved. The night before, an Ambassador came from the King of France to Charles, to assure the payment of £800,000 if the King would dissolve the Parliament. The writer, Gregory Alford, adds—'if the said Gibbons said so much to me, no doubt but he said much more to the dissenting party at Lyme'!"

FROM MACAULAY'S "HISTORY OF ENGLAND".

"On the evening on which the Duke of Monmouth landed, Gregory Alford, Mayor of Lyme, a zealous Tory and a most bitter persecutor of Nonconformists, sent off to give the alarm in Somersetshire and Dorsetshire, and himself took horse."

"Late at night he stopped at Honiton, and thence despatched a few hurried lines to London."

"At five in the morning the King (James II) received the letter which the Mayor of Lyme had despatched from Honiton. The Privy Council was instantly called together."

"Alford's communication was laid before the Lords, and its substance communicated to the Commons. A Bill received the Royal assent the same day, attainting Monmouth of high treason, and a reward of £5,000 was promised for his apprehension."

"The Lords had no evidence before them except the letter of the Mayor of Lyme."

"Monmouth marched towards Taunton, where he arrived on the 18th of June, exactly a week after his landing." (*Vol.* i, *p.* 579, *etc.*)

THE TANNER MSS., BODLEIAN LIBRARY.

A less flattering account is quoted in Allan Fea's *King Monmouth.* "The Duke's frigate, and the two tenders (described by the Mayor of Lyme as a fly boat of 200 tons and a ketch of 100 tons), brought eighty-three hands including Monmouth. His Grace, having landed, unsheathed his sword, and led his men by a field path—"The Stile Path"—over the cliff into Lyme, thus avoiding the guns of the fort. The Mayor, Alford, was at his wits' end what to do, issuing an order for the drums to beat an alarm."

"I am confident", writes Thomas Tye, Lyme, July 8, 1685, "forty men might have preserved this towne; but our Mayor, Captain Alford, immediately ran away, neither had he provided any powder, or incouraged any men."

FROM THE "HOUSE OF LORDS' JOURNAL".

Gregory Alford's letter to James II:—

"Honiton, 11 June 1685, near twelve at night.

"May it please your sacred Majesty,

"This evening, between 7 and 8 of the clock, there came a great ship into the road of Lyme, not showing any colours,

the off side of the ship not seen by us from the shore. She filled five great boats full of men, which they speeded behind the Cobb and so landed. They went over the cliffs and presently were in the Town; at least 300 men, with the Duke of Monmouth at their head; so they became masters of the town.

"I presently, knowing that I should be the first seized, took my horse and came with all speed to this town, and gave notice to all the country as I came, and sent my servants that notice should be given to Somerset and Dorsetshire, and I hope to be in Exeter in two hours to give an account of it to the Duke of Albemarle.

"In the morning there landed at Chideoak, in our bay, two men, which I understanding sent by all ways to take them. Whether they be taken or not I know not.

"So I humbly beseech your Majesty to pardon this distracted relation, not doubting they have plundered me.

"I am your Majesty's most humble servant,
"GREGORY ALFORD, Mayor."

It seems probable that the Alfords of DEVONSHIRE and of DORSET are of the same stock as those of Somerset, though the compiler, so far, has been unable to trace the connection. But it may be noted that the *Harleian MSS.* (1538, fol. 4), give the "Arms of Alford of Okehampton, Devon:—Argent, two hounds sable", and the same Arms are found in connection with the family at Escott in Talaton, having stood above the chief doorway of the old Manor House.

"Vincent Calmady, Esquire, of Langdon Hall, Devon (near Plymouth), married Wylmote Alford. He died 1579. Their coat of arms included the Pears for Alford of Wilts and Berks."

The Head-mastership of the Bideford foundation Grammar School, which stood originally on the site of the present Free Library, adjoining the bridge, was held for many years by the Rev. *Henry Alford*, whose parentage the compiler has been unable to trace. He

was born in 1795, graduated at Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge, 1822, and married Sarah Gourlay, of Great Yarmouth, who died in the same year as her husband, leaving no children. The *Collection of the Davidson Pamphlets* in the Athenæum Library, Plymouth, contains the following :—

> "Persuasions to a Holy Life," etc., by the Rev. Henry Alford, A.M., Bideford, 1832.
>
> "Sermon preached at Westleigh Parish Church (near Bideford) on Sunday, November 25, 1832; being the day appointed for returning thanks to Almighty God for Deliverance from Asiatic Cholera."

He died in 1861, and was buried in Abbotsham Churchyard.

Abbotsham, North Devon; an Altar-tomb in the Churchyard :—

"Sacred to the memory of the
Rev. Henry Alford,
late Master of the Bideford Grammar School,
who departed this life Feb. 13th, 1861, aged 66;
in the joyful hope of a glorious resurrection."

"Sacred to the memory of
Sarah Alford,
Relict of the Rev. Henry Alford,
who departed this life Nov. 17, 1861, aged 63."

A family of Alford occupied a good position in the parish of Wear Gifford during the eighteenth century.

Mr. *Lawrence Alford*, of Wear Gifford—a particularly charming spot, lying on the river Torridge, between Torrington and Bideford—was a subscriber to Watkins' *History of Bideford*, published in 1792. A quaint entry is found in this volume :—

> "Towne of Biddiford . . . . The bridge is 677 feet long, and has 24 arches of different sizes. It was built as early as 1350 . . . . The famous bridge of Bytheford is very long, and yet one William Alford of that place carried on his back for a wager four bushels salt-water measure all the length thereof."

The *Visitation of Devonshire*, 1620, gives the following :—

"John Alford of Bowe (N. Devon) married Grace Slowbye."
"Joane Alford married John Whitton of Chagford."
"Susan Alford, daughter and heiress of John Alford of Okehampton, married Peter Ebbeworthy."

A List of "Disclaimed", published at Barnstaple in 1620, includes John Alford of Monkton Zeale.

In 1786, Miss Mary Alford of Sandford, near Crediton, Devon, married William Henry Walrond.

We return here to the Lewis Alford Family, whose connection with Dorsetshire appears in Table VI.

The Alford entries in the Bridport registers ceased in 1729, after a continuous record of over one hundred and thirty years. Descendants of the Bridport stock spread into Devonshire, and we find entries in the registers at Wear Gifford (1763-1806), High Bickington (1771-1848), Ashreigney (1786-1869), Chawleigh (1816-1853), and neighbouring parishes.

The present head of the Devonshire family is Colonel *Frederick Lewis Alford*, of Bickham, Roborough, South Devon. His grandfather, Samuel Alford (b. 1793, d. 1853), had one son, the late Mr. Lewis Alford, F.R.G.S. (b. 1830), who married (1) Fanny, daughter of the late R. Boorn, by whom he had a son, Frederick, and (2) Florence, daughter of Colonel Stamford, Bombay Horse Artillery, by whom he had two sons, Henry and Charles.

Colonel Alford was educated at Harrow and Woolwich, served for several years in the Royal Artillery, and was appointed, in 1903, to the command of the Glamorgan

Artillery Militia. He married, in 1893, Emmeline McNeale, of the family of Mount Pleasant, co. Louth, and related on her mother's side to Lord Carbery's family. He has one son, Lewis McNeill Alford (born 1898), and one daughter, Margaret.

Captain *Henry Stamford Lewis Alford*, F.R.G.S., of Dalcross Castle, Inverness-shire, the second son, was educated at Harrow and Sandhurst. He held a commission in the Royal Scots Fusiliers, and saw service with the Nile Expeditionary Force, 1896 (Queen's medal and Khedive's medal and clasp), and in South Africa 1900-01 (medal with five clasps). He wrote, in collaboration with W. D. Sword, *The Egyptian Soudan* (Macmillan, 1898), which is referred to as an authoritative work in the *Statesman's Year Book*. He is now a Captain in the 3rd Battalion Cameron Highlanders, and a Member of the Royal Company of Archers, H.M.'s Bodyguard for Scotland.

Charles Egerton Alford, the third son of this family, was also at Harrow, and afterwards at Trinity Hall, Cambridge.

WILLS IN THE ARCHDEACON'S COURT OF BARNSTAPLE.

1771. Administration. Lewis Alford, High Bickington. Granted to his sons Lewis and George; James Alford of Roborough being also mentioned.

1779. Admon. John Alford, of High Bickington, granted to Mary his widow.

1808. Will of Mary Alford, widow (of the above), of High Bickington, "yeoman". Sons George and William; daughter Joan Richards. Residue to son John Alford, sole executor.

1810. Will of Henry Alford of Roborough.

1814. Will of William Alford of High Bickington, yeoman; leasehold estate to his brother George, Executor. "Brother

Lewis, and his son William . . . Deceased brother John, and his children, John, George, William, and Joan wife of Basil Richards."

1826. Will of George Alford of High Bickington, in the co. of Devon, yeoman. "My wife . . . . my sons James, William, George, Henry . . . . ; my daughter Frances Hunt, my daughter Margaret Perryman, ... My daughters Mary and Joan . . . . My son Lewis Alford, sole executor."

1846. Admon. Lewis Alford of High Bickington. Under £1,000. Granted to Mary his widow.

1848. Will of George Alford of High Bickington. "To my eldest son George Alford of Atherington, for ever the house and courtelage attached. Son William . . . . daughter Mary Alford and Elizabeth Downe, executrices."

The following matriculations at Oxford may be noted here :—

"Alford, John, of Devon. Plebs. Exeter Coll., matric. 1596, age 22. B.A. 1601. Degree cancelled. Rector of Ashton, Devon (near Newton Abbot), 1615." He died in 1646.

"Alford, Theophilus, son of John Alford of Ashton, Devon, sacerdos. Trin. Coll., Oxf., matric. 1634, age 17. M.A. 1638. Cambridge 1640. Vicar of St. Stephen's, Coleman Street, London, 1661, and of South Weald, Essex, 1662."

"Alford, John, son of Theophilus Alford, of Brentwood, Essex, clericus. Trinity Coll., Oxf., matric. 1675, age 16."

"Alford, John, of Devon. Pleb. Merton Coll., matric. 1608, age 18. B.A. St. Alban's Hall, 1612."

"Alford, George, son of John Alford of Heavitree, Devon. Pleb. Exeter Coll., matric. 1631, age 20. B.A. 1632."

"Alford, Melchizedec, son of William Alford of Lyme Regis, Dorset, gent., Christ Church, matric. 1641, age 18. B.A. 1648, expelled (as a Royalist). Vicar of Ottery St. Mary, Devon, 1661."

REGISTERS OF SOUTH PERROTT, DORSET.

1626, "Apr. 27. Gulielmus Alford de Lime Regis, uxorem duxit Susannah Heckes."

REGISTERS OF UPLYME, DEVONSHIRE.

The parish of Uplyme adjoins that of Lyme Regis, although the former parish is in Devonshire and the latter in Dorsetshire. The complete Registers date only from 1710. Some loose pages are of earlier date :—

1620, Nov. 10. Gregory, son of Richard Alford, baptized.
1622, Dec. 3. Richard, son of Richard Alford, baptized.
1623, May 1. Edward, son of Richard Alford, baptized.
1625, Apr. 3. Robert, son of Richard Alford, baptized.
1626. William, son of Richard Alford, baptized.
1645, June 2. Gregory, son of Mr. Gregory Alford, baptized.
1646, May 8. Joan, daughter of Gregory Alford, baptized.
1650, May . William, son of Gregory and Mary Alford, baptized.
1653, Jan. 30. Jane Alford and James Powell, married.
1672, Apr. 6. Gregory, infant son of Mr. Gregory Alford, buried.
1678, June 16. Robert Alford, buried.

REGISTERS OF LYME REGIS, DORSET.

[*In addition to the ordinary entries, which follow next.*]

1653. "John Lester of Poole, and Susan Baker of Stockland (near Honiton), weare published three severall times in the Market place, and weare married by Mr. Richard Alford, deputy under Mr. John Davye, Mayor, the 16th daye of December."

[*This is the first entry of a marriage in the existing Register.*]

1658, Jan. 25. Witnesses at a marriage :—(Signatures) "Robert Alford, George Alford."
1663, Feb. 28. Mr. Timothy Hallett was inducted as Vicar. (Signature) "Geo. Alford, Guard. eccl."

[*The Lyme Regis Registers are very incomplete. There is a Register of Baptisms only from* 1538 *to* 1572, *but this contains no Alford entry. The regular entries of Baptisms, Marriages, and Burials commence in* 1653, *and the earliest Alford entry is :—*]

1656, Jan. 8. George Alford, buried.
1658. "Mr. Richard Alford, senior, was buried the 29th January."
1666, Oct. 31. Joan Alford, buried.
1672, Jan. 30. Mary Alford, vidua, buried.
1673, Oct. 21. Mary, wife of Gregory Alford, buried.
1682, May 18. William Alford and Grace James, married.

1683, Nov. 6. William, son of William Alford, baptized.
1686, June 21. John, son of William Alford, baptized.
1688, Feb. 20. Sarah, daughter of William Alford, baptized.
1693, Jan. 14. Grace Alford, widow, buried.
1693, June 3. John Alford, buried.
1697, May 17. "Mr. Gregory Alford, buryed".
1701, Feb. 21. Rebekah Alford, buried.
1706, Nov. 12. Judith Alford, widow, buried.
1712, Nov. 25. Roger Owesley and Sarah Alford, married.
1718, Apr. 27. Elizabeth, daughter of Thomas Alford, baptized.
1719, Feb. 14. Thomas, son of Thomas Alford, baptized.
1722, Dec. 23. Thomas, son of Thomas Alford, buried.
1723, Apr. 11. Laura [?], daughter of Thomas Alford, baptized.
1725, June 11. Rebecka, daughter of Thomas Alford, buried.
1726, Oct. 23. Abraham, son of Thomas Aldford, baptized.
1729, Nov. 9. Elizabeth, daughter of Thomas Aldford, baptized.
1730, June 13. Abraham, son of Thomas Alford, buried.
1731, Mar. 21. Elizabeth, daughter of Thomas Alford, buried.
1733, Apr. 1. Elizabeth, wife of Thomas Alford, buried.
1738, Jan. 25. William Alford and Alice Cox, of Lyme, married.
1739, July 6. William, son of William Alford, baptized.
1739, Dec. 25. Thomas Alford, buried.
1743, June 15. John, son of William Alford, baptized.
1743, Sept. 20. Sarah, wife of Mr. Roger Owsley, buried.
1745, Sept. 24. Betty, daughter of William Alford, baptized.
1782, Nov. 12. Sarah, wife of Thomas Alford, buried, æt. 31.
1783, June 29. John, son of Jacob and Elizabeth Alford, buried, æt. 1.

REGISTERS OF LYDLINCH (NEAR BLANDFORD), DORSET.

1650, Dec. 18. Melchisedec Alford married Elizabeth Channon.

REGISTERS OF TALATON (NEAR OTTERY ST. MARY), DEVONSHIRE.

1653, Jan. 17. Richard Alford, the sonne of Melchisedeck Allford, gent., was borne.
1653, Mar. 23. Mrs. Margaret Allford, the wife of Richard Allford, gent., was buried.
1654, Jan. 20. Richard Allford, the son of Melchisedec Allford, clerk, was buried.
1654, Mar. 20. Margaret Allford, the daughter of Melchisedeck Alford, clerk, was borne.

1656, July 23. Richard Alford, the sonne of Richard Allford, gent., was borne.
1658, Aug. 13. Francis Allford, sonne of Richard Allford, gent., was borne.
1659, Jan. 4. Francis, sonn of Richard Alford, gent., buried.
1659, Nov. 21. Frances, sonn to Richard Alford, gent., was borne.
1663, Mar. 25. Mary Alford, the daughter of Richard Allford, gent., was borne.
1665, Oct. 17. George, the sonn of Richard Alford, gent., was baptized.
1665, Nov. 1. Richard, the son of Richard Alford, gent., was buried.
1665, Nov. 6. Mary, the daughter of Richard Alford, gent., was buried.
1666, May 12. An agreement entered on the fly-leaf of the Register. "Witness—Mr. Richard Alford."
1667, Feb. 20. Richard, the sonn of Richard Alford, gent., was baptized.
1684, Apr. 2. Witness to the death of Wm. Cottle, gent.:—Margaret Alford.

REGISTERS OF FARWAY, DEVONSHIRE.

1669, June 6. James Alford, buried.
1672, Apr. 1. Thomas, son of Mr. Gregory Alford, baptized.
1675, May — Marmaduke, son of Gregory Alford, baptized.
1693, June 27. Mr. Gregory Alford, buried.
1706, June 3. Robert Alford and Mary Lee, married.
1738, Sept. 26. Frances Alford, widow, buried.

REGISTERS OF OTTERY ST. MARY, DEVONSHIRE.

1689, Aug. 10. Melchisedeck Alford, vicar, buried.

REGISTERS OF WEAR GIFFORD, N. DEVONSHIRE.

1763, Nov. 21. Lewes, son of Mr. Lewes Alford and Mary his wife, baptized.
1764, June 23. Lewes, son of Mr. Lewes Alford and Mary his wife, buried.
1765, Apr. 28. Lewis, son of Lewis and Mary Alford, baptized.
1766, Sept. 7. Laurence, son of Mr. Lewes Alford and Mary, baptized.

1768, Mar.	20.	Esther, daughter of Mr. Lewes Alford and Mary, baptized.
1771, Dec.	16.	Mary, wife of Mr. Lewes Alford, buried.
1774, Jan.	22.	John Alford, buried.
1774, Feb.	27.	Lewis, son of Mr. Lewis Alford and Mary his wife, buried.
1775, Aug.	31.	Thomas Law, gent., of Bishop's Tawton, and Elizabeth Alford, married.
1781, July	4.	Lewis Alford, gent. (aged 58), buried.
1788, Dec.	22.	Laurence, son of Laurence Alford and Mary, baptized privately.
1789, Nov.	27.	William Lewis, son of Laurence Alford and Mary, baptized privately.
1791, Apr.	7.	John, son of Laurence Alford and Mary his wife, baptized.
1792, Oct.	31.	Charles James, son of Laurence Alford and Mary his wife, baptized.
1794, June	29.	Mary, daughter of Laurence Alford and Mary, baptized.
1798, June	10.	Arundel, son of Laurence Alford and Mary his wife, baptized.
1800, Oct.	23.	Edwin, son of Laurence Alford and Mary his wife, baptized.
1803, June	2.	Laurence Alford (aged 36), buried.
1806, Oct.	3.	Mary Anne Alford, from Bideford, buried.

The wills of several Alfords of Devonshire will be found in the Appendix.

The Alfords of Somerset.

THIS family has been established in the county of Somerset from a very early date, and the following records may appropriately be given here before coming to the authentic line of the present day.

In 1292, 20 Edward I, certain lands at Barrington and Chillington, co. Somerset, were held "by the service of finding a man on foot to serve at the Castle of Aldford, Cheshire, in time of war".

In 1327-8 the names of Thomas Alford and John Alford appear under the parish of Henstridge, co. Somerset. (*Subsidy Rolls, Somerset.*)

In 1335-6, 9 Edward III, John Alford of Williton, co. Somerset, clerk, made a grant of a tenement at Williton. (*Hist. MS. Com.*, vol. xvi, p. 74.)

In 1484 there died an Allford, Vicar of Cannington, near Bridgwater. "There was an inscription in Brass under the Altar steps" to his memory, in which he was also called "a Benefactor". (*Collinson's "Somerset".*)

In 1520, Thomas Alford acted as patron of the living of Pilton, a village five miles north of Alford. (*Weaver's "Somerset Incumbents".*)

COLLINSON'S "SOMERSET".—This book, published in 1791, contains many references to the Alford family, under the Parishes of Weston Zoyland, Curry Rivel, Ashill, and Chard. The recently published Index gives these in due order. Samuel Alford, of Heale House, Vicar of Curry Rivel, and a Justice of the Peace for the county, was one of the original subscribers.

1523. Hundred of Whiteley, Somerset (in which Hundred Weston Zoyland is included), 14, 15, Henry VIII. "Henri Alford, 20*s.*; George Alford, 20*s.*" (*Subsidy Roll*, 169/175.)

1524-5. Hundred of Abdick, 16 Henry VIII. "Ile Abbotts, John Alforde." "Bickenhall, John Alford." (*Subsidy Roll*, 169/154.)

In 1538 William Alford was witness to the Will, dated 22 Marche, of Thomas Silveston of Hinton St. George, co. Somerset.

1545-6, 37 Henry VIII. Hundred of Whiteley (in which Weston Zoyland is included), "John Alford". (*Subsidy Roll*, 170/226.)

1548. Pilton, with the Chapel of Wootton, near Shepton Mallet. "John Alforde and Richard Kinge hold vi acres of land there, and render per annum x*s.*" (*Survey of Chantries, Somerset*, p. 303.)

We now come to the present line, which—from the marriage of Henry Alford of Weston Zoyland with Julian Woodroffe in 1564, through three-and-a-half centuries, down to the present time—is recorded in the Heralds' College.

These Alfords of Somerset were landowners in the county, as is still the case, and two members of the family were county magistrates—the family being one "of evidently good position in the county for the last three hundred years"—but they became known chiefly as a clerical family, "a veritable family of the priesthood", six successive generations, in two diverging but unbroken lines, having taken Holy Orders.

But see also p. 147

These two lines are commonly known as "the Bishop's" and "the Dean's" branches, referring respectively to Charles Richard Alford, D.D., formerly Bishop of Victoria, and to Henry Alford, D.D., late Dean of Canterbury.

The divergence of these clerical branches came through the two sons of Thomas Alford, Vicar of Weston-Zoyland and of Ashill, and Prebendary of Wells, who died 1777.

(1) *Thomas Alford*, the elder son, became Vicar of Ashill and of Chard, married the daughter of the Reverend John Coles, "near 50 years Vicar of Bridgwater", and died 1805. His son Charles Alford was fifty-five years Rector of St. Audries, West Quantockshead, married Elizabeth Symes, and left four sons, of whom the eldest, Charles Richard Alford, became Bishop of Victoria in 1867, and died, head of this family, in 1898.

(2) *Samuel Alford*, the younger son, became Vicar of Curry Rivel and Dean of St. Burian, while his grandson was Dean of Canterbury. He inherited the Heale estate from the family of his grandmother Frances Powell, which estate still remains in that branch, being now held by his great grandson Robert Alford, J.P., of Heale House.

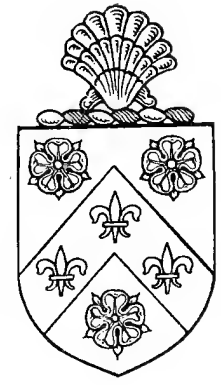
A flourishing branch of the Alford family is found in Australia—a late divergence from the "Bishop's branch", —also a still more recent settlement in Canada, springing from the "Dean's branch".

From the Alfords of Somerset came also the Alford and Alvord families of the United States of America.

Table IX.

Alford of Weston Zoyland, Somerset.

NOTE:—*Those marked * are entered in the Pedigree recorded at Heralds' College.*



*1. Henry Alford, of Weston Zoyland; will 1575; m. *Julian Woodroffe.*

- *2. Matthew Alford, of Weston Zoyland; b. 1567; d. 1639; m. *Mary Trevillian.*
  - *Andrew Alford, b. 1595; d. 1598.
  - *Agnes*, b. 1597; d. 1598.
  - *Agnes*, m. Thomas Cary.
  - *3. Thomas Alford, of Weston Zoyland; b. 1599; d. 1666; m. (1) *Alice Sealey*, who d. 1635; (2) *Mary Somers.*
    - *4. Richard Alford, of Weston Zoyland; b. 1641; d. 1693; m. *Letitia Kaysar.*
      - *Mary*, b. 1665; d. in infancy.
      - *Mary*, b. 1671; d. before 1700.
      - *5. Thomas Alford, Vicar of Curry Rivel; b. 1672; d. 1708; m. *Frances Powell*, of Heale.
        - *Lætitia*, b. 1699; d. 1730; m. Rev. John Gould.
        - * Richard Alford, b. 1701; d. 1711.
        - *6. Thomas Alford, Vicar of Weston Zoyland, and of Ashill; Prebendary of Wells; b. 1703; d. 1777; m. *Mary Standfast.*
          - * Richard Alford, of Exeter; b. 1736; d. 1782, s.p.; m. *Sarah Cass.*
          - Thomas Alford, d. in infancy, 1739.
          - * Thomas Alford, Vicar of Ashill and of Chard; b. 1742; d. 1805; m. *Sarah Coles.*
            - *A quo* the "Bishop's Branch". See TABLE X.
          - *Frances*, m. Rev. Nicholas Vere.
          - * Samuel Alford, Vicar of Curry Rivel; Dean of St. Burian; b. 1747; d. 1799; m. *Mary Bush.*
            - *A quo* the "Dean's Branch". See TABLE XI.
        - * Samuel Alford, Curate of Axbridge; b. 1705; d. 1730.
        - * Marmaduke Alford, b. 1708; d. 1712.
  - *Ann*, b. 1636
  - *Thomas Alford, b. 1638; living in 1642; d. young.
  - *Richard Alford, of Weston Zoyland; b. 1609; d. 1642; m. *Thomasine Coggan.*
- *Joane*, b. 1569; living in 1575.

The Alfords of Weston Zoyland, etc.

HAVING noted in the foregoing introductory chapter a few records of medieval Alfords, which doubtless by fuller search could be added to, we now commence the line of the proven pedigree of the Somerset Alfords, which is recorded in the books of Heralds' College.

1. **Henry Alford** of Weston Zoyland, near Bridgwater, is the first of this family whose name appears in the registers of that parish. His father was dead, but his mother still living, when he married there, October 24, 1564, *Julian Woodroffe*; and the mention later of some marriage settlement shows that the family were in good circumstances.

The children of Henry Alford and Julian his wife were :—

i. *Matthew Alford*, baptized at Weston Zoyland in 1567, of whom next (**2**).
ii. *Joan*, baptized at Weston Zoyland, 2 March 1569-70, a legatee in her father's will 1575; and
iii. A child whose identity is uncertain.

Henry Alford's life was a short one, for he died about 1575, but his burial is not recorded in the Weston Zoyland register, and it may be inferred, as we know from his will that he was "in the wars", that he died away from home. Of this document the following is an abstract :—

Harry Alford of Weston Zoyland, Somerset, dated 14 December 1569, proved 22 April 1575. "In the name of God, amen, the four-

tene daye of December in the yeare of o^r Lord God, 1569. I, Harry Alford of Weston Zoyland, in the countie of Somerset, nowe in good healthe and perfect remembrance do make my last Will and Testament in manner and forme followinge. First I give and bequeathe my soule unto Almightie God, and my bodye to the grounde. Item I geve to eche one of my three children . . . to my sonne Mathewe . . . to my daughter Joane . . . All suche goodds as was appointed unto me by promise of my Mother at the daye of my marriage that I shoulde have after the deathe of my Mother. Yf that it please God that I do not come home againe from the servinge ye Queene's Majestie [Queen Elizabeth], then my Will is that my Mother shall have the on halfe at her owne pleasure, and thother halfe to remaine to my children after my Mother's decease. The rest of all my goodds I geve and bequeathe unto Julian my wife, whom I ordeyne and make my executrix."

Witnesses: Thomas Atway, John Wescot, Robert Alford. "Probatim xxii die mensis Aprilis 1575."

Wells Probate Registry Book, xvii, fol. 233.

The "wars" alluded to were the troubles in connection with the Spanish Armada. Henry Alford probably went to Ireland under Captain Shute, who, in 1569, took over "a hundred men from Somersetshire, 49 from west of Parrett, and 51 from east of Parrett". They served at Limerick and in Cork, and Henry Alford apparently did not return. His wife survived him, and on 25 October 1575, eleven years and a day after her first marriage, she was married to *Nicholas Rede*.

2. **Matthew Alford,** son of the above Henry Alford, was baptized at Weston Zoyland in 1567. He is mentioned in his father's will in 1569. He married on 18 October, 1590, *Mary Trevillian* of Drayton, co. Somerset, the marriage being recorded in the Weston Zoyland registers, and mentioned in a deed still in the possession of the Trevillian family, whose beautiful seat, Middleney Place, is little more than a mile from the Alford estate of Heale. The will of Ralph Trevillian, 1628 (*Somerset Wills*, ii, 20), also speaks of "Mary my

sister, wife of Matthew Alford of Weston". His wife Mary Alford was buried 5 June 1612, and he married secondly, 7 October 1633, *Agnes Croydon.* He was buried at Weston Zoyland, 1 May 1639.

The children of Matthew Alford and Mary his wife were :—

i. *Andrew Alford*, baptized at Weston Zoyland, 2 March 1595-6, and buried there 21 October 1598.
ii. *Agnes*, baptized at Weston Zoyland, 11 March 1597, and buried there 10 January 1598-9.
iii. *Thomas Alford* of whom next (3).
iv. *Agnes*, baptized as "filia . . . . Alford" on 27 December 1602, may have been another daughter.
v. *Richard Alford*, baptized at Weston Zoyland 31 December 1609. He married at Weston Zoyland, 2 May 1635, *Thomzen Coggan.* No children are named in his will, nor are any entered to him in the register. He was buried at Weston Zoyland, as "Mr. Richard Alford", 29 April 1641. His will is as follows :—

Richard Alford of Weston Zoyland, Somerset, 1642. "To be buried in the churchyard of Weston Zoyland . . . . To the cathedral of Wells . . . . To the church of Weston Zoyland . . . . To the poor of Weston Zoyland £10 . . . . Thomas Alford and Richard Alford, sons of Thomas Alford of Weston . . . . Arable land in Broadway in Weston Zoyland . . . . William Symes son of Anthony Symes, my Godchild . . . . To Edward Crocker of North Curry, a bay mare . . . . Thomasine my nowe wife executrix." Dated 21 April 1642. Proved at Wells, 25 June 1642.
Wells, Orig. Wills.

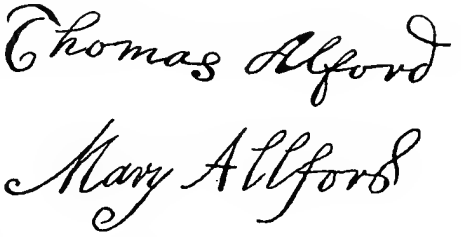
3. **Thomas Alford** of Weston Zoyland, son of the above Matthew Alford, was baptized there 12 September 1599. He married (1) at Weston Zoyland, 14 October 1628, *Ales Sealey*, who, with her infant daughter, was buried there 22 January 1635-6. Their children were apparently three, whose names are curiously entered to the mother, and not as usual to the father.

i. *Joan*, "dau. of A . . . . Alford", baptized 4 October 1629, buried 10 January 1639-40.
ii. *Mary*, "dau. of Al . . . . Alford", baptized 29 May 1632, buried 30 September 1638.
iii. *Agnes*, "dau. of Al . . . . Alford", baptized 22 January 1635-6, and buried with her mother the same day.

Thomas Alford married (2) *Mary Somers*. She possibly survived her husband, and may be the Mary Alford, who was married to William Bragge at Weston Zoyland 21 October 1671. They had issue :—

iv. *Ann*, baptized at Weston Zoyland, 10 September 1636.
v. *Thomas Alford*, baptized 27 September 1638, and named in 1642 in the will of his uncle, Richard Alford, but of whom we have no further trace.
vi. *Richard Alford*, of whom next **(4)**.

The signatures of this Thomas Alford and his second wife, Mary Somers, are here given :—



He died in 1666, and was buried at Weston Zoyland, 28 July.

A memorial of this Thomas Alford, senior, exists in an old "Breeches Bible", which descended from the Alfords of Weston Zoyland to Samuel Alford of Heale and his family, and is now the property of Miss Alford of Heale. On the fly-leaf is the inscription :—

"Thomas Alford of Weston Zoyland, in the county of Somerset."

There then follow signatures of several of his descendants as owners of the Bible in succeeding years.

4. Richard Alford, youngest child of the above Thomas, was baptized 9 October 1641, at Weston Zoy-

land. He married when about twenty-three years of age, his wife's name being *Lætitia*, or by contraction *Lettice*. Their children were :—

i. *Mary*, baptized at Weston Zoyland, 25 February 1665-6. No further record of her is found.
ii. *Mary*, baptized at Weston Zoyland, 19 February 1671-2. No further record of her is found.
iii. *Thomas Alford*, of whom next (**5**).

A deed in the Bristol Chapter Office bears the signature of Richard Alford, dated 1673, by which the Dean and Chapter granted to him for ten years some land at Isle Abbots, a few miles distant. He was churchwarden of Weston Zoyland from Easter 1685 to Easter 1686, just at the time of the Monmouth insurrection, and (like his cousin, Gregory Alford, at that time mayor of Lyme Regis), was on the side of the king, maintaining the loyalty of the family. The parish books contain a reference to the "fight that was in Langmore the 5th July", and the "Battle of Sedgemoor", fought all round Weston Zoyland on July 6, 1685, between the forces of King James II and those of Monmouth, which battle ended so disastrously for the latter. This entry is in the handwriting of "Richard Alford, Churchwarden". He says :—

"There was kild upon the spott, of the King's souldiers sixteen, five of them buried in the Church, the rest in the churchyard, and they all had Christian burial. One hundred or more of the King's Souldiers wounded, of which wounds many died. There was kild of the Rebels upon the spott about of 300, 22 hanged with us.

About 500 prisoners brought into our Church, of which there were 79 wounded, and 5 of them died in our Church."

Richard Alford's accounts as churchwarden include the following items :—

"Expended on the Ringers, 6th July, in remembrance of the great deliverance we had on that day, 7*s.* Expended upon the day of thanksgiving after the fight, upon the Ringers, 11*s.* 8*d.* Expended when Monmouth was taken, upon Ringers, 8*s.* 6*d.* Paid for Frankincense to burn in the Church after the Prisoners was gone out, 5*s.* 8*d.* Paid for ringing when the King was on the More, 5*s.* Expended in beere the next day, when the King came through Weston, 8*s.* 10*d.*"

In agreement with these entries, Seyer's *History of Bristol* says, "next morning early the King went to Bridgwater and to King Sedgmoor to view the place where his army overthrew the Duke of Monmouth".

Richard Alford died in 1693, and his widow seven years later. Their monumental inscription remains on a flat stone in the nave of Weston Zoyland Church, as below, and the Wills of both follow :—

"Juxta hunc locum jacent
Richardus Alford et Lætitia,
Quorum alter 5 Decembris 1693.
Altera 30 Augusti 1700,
Sepulti fuerunt."

"*I, Richard Alford* of Weston Zoyland, being sick in body, but of good and perfect memory thanks bee to Almighty God, do make, constitute, ordain, and declare this my last will and testament. First I com'itt my soull unto Almighty God, from whom thro' the meritts of Jesus Christ I hope to receive full remission of all my sins, but my body to be interred in such place as my executors shall appoint. And as for my temporal estate, goods and chattels, I give and dispose them as followeth. Inprimis I give to my son Thomas £300. Item I give unto my cosen, Edward Coggan, my middle suit of apparell. I constitute my wife Lettice ye executrix of this my last will. In witness, etc." Signature and seal. Inventory £492. Proved January 10, 1693, at Wells.

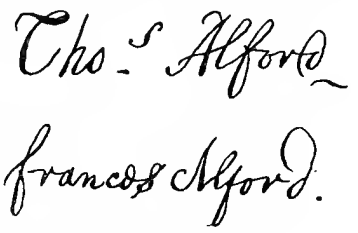
Wells, Bishop's Court, No. lxxii.

Lettice Alford of Weston Zoyland, co. Somerset, 1700. "I, Lettice Alford of Weston Zoyland, in the co. of Somerset, beinge

sick of body but of perfect mind and memory . . . . To my son Thomas . . . . to my daughter Alford [daughter-in-law], my best sta'mell flannell, my silk scarf and my best suit of apparell and my best straw hatt . . . . To my sister Keysar . . . . to John the son of John Spark of Chedzoy . . . . to my servant Thomas Lockyer . . . . to my servant-maid Eliz. Palmer my flannell with black lace and two caps. Fourty shillings to be bestowed for the use of some poor of the parish of Weston Zoyland in devotional books at the discretion of my son Thomas. My grand-daughter Lettice executrix, over whom I appoint my son Thomas and Richard Sparke guardians." Dated Feb. 29, 1699. Proved at Wells, Jan. 30, 1700. Inventory, £188. Signature and seal. *Wells, Bishop's Court, No.* liv.

A relic of Richard Alford still exists in an old oak chair, bearing his initials, and the date 1676. This chair has passed through the Alfords of Curry Rivel to the Rev. D. P. Alford of Taunton.

5. **Thomas Alford,** only son of Richard and Letitia Alford, was baptized 27 December 1672, at Weston Zoyland. In him the family commenced that clerical career, for which it is now so well known, continued through six generations to the present day. He matriculated at All Souls College, Oxford, as "son of Richard Alford, of Weston Zoyland, Somerset", in 1688, age 16, and proceeded M.A. from St. Mary Hall in 1695. He was presented by the Powell family to the vicarage of Curry Rivel in 1697, and married, 10 November 1698, *Frances*, daughter of Samuel *Powell*, esq., of Heale House in that parish. This estate ultimately passed to her grandson, the Rev. Samuel Alford, on the death, in 1787, of his cousin, Miss Mary Powell, and in the Alford family it still remains.



Thomas Alford and Frances his wife had the follow-

ing five children, whose baptisms are all recorded in the Curry Rivel registers :—

i. *Letitia*, baptized 13 September 1699, m., by licence, 13 November 1718, at High Ham, co. Somerset, though neither were resident in that parish, the Rev. *John Gould*, then of Chistock, co. Dorset, and afterwards rector of Farway, Devon, where she died in 1730.

ii. *Richard Alford*, baptized 27 May 1701, died of fever 4 May 1711, and was buried at Weston Zoyland. On a flat stone in the nave is the following inscription :—

"Juxta quoque jacent
Richardus et Marmaducus Alford,
(Fratres ejusdem Samuel)
Quorum, ille ardenti fæbor corruptis
Paucos post dies animam extrahavit,
Hic (triste dictu) aqua suffocatus expiravit
Alter sepultus fuit 4 Maii 1711,
Alter vero 20 Septembris 1712."

iii. *Thomas Alford*, of whom next (**6**).

iv. *Samuel Alford*, baptized 4 July 1705, was buried a bachelor, 29 May 1730, at Weston Zoyland. He matriculated at Oriel College, Oxford ; graduated B.A. 1726, M.A. 1729, and became curate of Axbridge. A flat stone in the nave of Weston Zoyland church is inscribed as follows :—

"H. S.
Corpus Reverendi Sam. Alford
A.M. admirandæ spei juvenis.
Maturum, heu crudeli manu decerpsit, et omnes
Omnium suorum spes decepit,
Magnum ingenii specimen, dum vixit nobis exhibuit.
Majora, si diutius vixisset, polliciturus.
Obiit Anno salutis, 1730; ætatis, 24."

His will describes him as "of Axbridge, Somerset, clerk", and is dated May 5, 1730. "To my sister Lætitia Gould, wife of the Rev. Mr. Gould, rector of Farway, co. Devon, £30. To Sarah Law, eldest daughter of the Rev. Mr. Law, vicar of South Brent, two mourning rings, and £10 per annum . . . . To the poor of Curry Rivell and of Weston Zoyland,

£5 each . . . . My brother Thomas Alford, vicar of Weston Zoyland, executor and residuary Legatee." Proved at Wells, June 10, 1730, by "Thomas Alford, Clerk, executor". *Wells, Archdn. Court, No.* lv.

v. *Marmaduke Alford*, born 1 May, baptized 19 May 1708, was drowned 20 September 1712, according to the inscription, given above under his brother Richard.

The will of Elizabeth Powell, 1702 (*Somerset Wills*, iii, 79), bequeaths "to Thomas Alford 20/- to preach my funeral sermon", and mentions "my granddaughter Frances Alford." Thomas Alford died at the early age of 36. His will follows :—

Thomas Alford of Curry Rivell, in the co. of Somerset, clerke. (1708. "Copia vera." Original Probate copy. Taunton Archidiaconal Registry.) "First I commend my soul into the hands of Almighty God, and my body I leave to be interred. Also I give and bequeath unto my wife Ffrances the six hundred pounds that I am obliged to leave her, by virtue of a bond given by me unto my ffather-in-law Mr. Samuel Powell in her behalfe before marriage. Allso I give unto my daughter Lettice one hundred pounds to be paid in two months tyme after my decease. Allso I give unto my son Thomas twentie pounds; allso I give unto my son Marmaduke twentie pounds; all these sumes of good and lawfull money of Great Brittain. Also I give five pounds to be bestowed in books, and my will is that the books may be "The Whole Duty of Man", to be distributed amongst the parishioners of Curry Rivell aforesaid. Lastly I make and appoint my sons Richard and Samuel joynt Executors of this my last Will and Testament, to whom, except what is before disposed of, I give and bequeath all my goods and chattels and effects whatsoever, and over whom I appoint as Tuters and Guardians dureing their minority my ffather-in-law Mr. Samuell Powell & Mr. Martyn Tatchell. In Witness whereof I have hereunto sett my hand and seale this 27 daye of July, Anno Dom. 1708."

Frances Alford retired as a widow to Farway, near Ottery St. Mary, in Devonshire, where her daughter's husband, the Reverend John Gould, was rector. There she lived for thirty years, and there she died and was buried.

MONUMENTAL INSCRIPTIONS.

Curry Rivel, Somersetshire :—

"Thomas Alford, A.M.,
hujus parochiæ vicarius, qui in
medio vitæ curriculo, heu! finem attigit,
longiori vitâ dignus, nisi meliori dignior.
Obiit omnibus suis admodum flebilis,
sed nulli flebilior quam charæ uxori,
quæ hoc novissimo pignore
pium animi ardorem testari voluit.
Anno salutis 1708, ætatis suæ 36."

Farway, Devonshire :—

"Underneath lyeth interred ye body of
Mrs. Frances Alford,
Relict of the Rev. Mr. Thomas Alford,
late Vicar of Curry Rivell in the Co. of Somerset,
and daughter of Samuel Powell, Esq., of the same Parish.
She departed this life
September 20, 1738, aged 61."

FAMILY BOOKS.

A "Breeches Bible" (distinct from that already mentioned), contains some doubtful entries, commencing with this Thomas Alford.

An old volume of Clarke's *Grotius*, contains the following entries :—

"Thos. Alford fil. Thos. the owner of this Book Anno Domini 1722. Orl. Coll., E Univ. Oxon."

"E Libris Thomæ Alford, Æn. Na. Coll., Oxon., 1765, ex Agro Somersetensis." The three successive Thomas Alfords are thus mentioned together.

The compiler has also inherited some five and twenty old books which were the possessions of one or another of all the five generations senior to himself, carefully preserved and marked with the names of their original owners.

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6. Thomas Alford, eldest surviving son of the above Thomas Alford and Frances his wife, was baptized

at Curry Rivel 15 June 1703. He matriculated at Oriel College, Oxford, in 1721, aged 19, but migrated to Brasenose College, and proceeded B.A. in 1724, and M.A. in 1728.

Taking holy orders, he was presented in 1727 to the vicarage of Weston Zoyland by the Brydges family, with which family the Alfords of Berkshire (descended from Holt and Aldford) were connected by marriage. He held with it the rectory of Ashill, and also became prebendary of Wells, holding the stall of Combe from 1738 to 1742, and the stall of Ashill from 1742 to his death in 1777. He inherited from his father property at Weston Zoyland, particulars of which may be seen in his will, while from the same source we learn that not only was he rector of Ashill as well as vicar of Weston Zoyland, but that the living of Ashill was his property, together with some land and the house in which he lived (a curate apparently serving Weston Zoyland). The land was till recently known as "Alford's fields". In conjunction with a Mr. Winn he founded a charity school for poor children at Weston Zoyland in 1774. He was also a Magistrate for the county of Somerset. The will, 1741 (Taunton Probate Registry), of "John Allen of Bridgwater, Doctor of Physick", appoints "my trusty and well beloved friend Thomas Alford of Weston Zoyland, Clerk, Trustee". He "married *Mary*, daughter of Richard *Standfast* of Cheddon Fitzpaine, in the co. of Somerset, gentleman". Their children were :—

i. *Richard Alford*, baptized at Weston Zoyland 29 May 1736, died at Exeter 29 May, and was buried 4 June 1782, at Ashill. His monumental inscription follows :—

"Underneath lie the remains of
Mr. Richard Alford, Gent.,
eldest son of the Rev. Thomas Alford,
Vicar of this Parish.
He died at Exeter, May 29, 1782.
Aged 46."

He succeeded under his father's will to the property at Weston Zoyland, which on his death passed to his brother, the Rev. Thomas Alford. He married *Sarah Cass* who died 1795, but they left no children.

ii. *Thomas Alford*, baptized 31 March 1739, and buried at Weston Zoyland 27 May following.
iii. *Thomas Alford*, of whom hereafter, heading Table X.
iv. *Frances*, born 1745, married as Fanny Alford, spinster, by license, at Ashill, 30 March 1770, Rev. Nicholas Vere, rector of Uplyme. Through her some of the Weston Zoyland property passed away from the Alford family. She died in 1810.
v. *Samuel Alford*, of whom hereafter, heading Table XI.

In these two surviving sons of the Rev. Thomas Alford —Thomas and Samuel—came the modern division of the Somersetshire Alfords into the two branches, now commonly known as "the Bishop's" and "the Dean's".

Thomas Alford lost his wife in 1763, he himself living until 1777, when he died, at the age of 74.

His will is here given, and the monumental inscriptions follow.

Thomas Alford of Ashill, in the co. of Somerset, clerk, 1777. "To my eldest son Richard Alford all my messuage and tenement lying in the Parish of Weston Zoyland, commonly known by the name of Sanson's. To my son Richard a copyhold estate belonging to the Vicarage of Weston [Zoyland], granted by me to my three sons, Richard, Samuel and Thomas, after the custom of the Manor, for the term of his natural life, and after his decease to my sons Samuel and Thomas successively. To my second son Thomas Alford the parsonage of Ashill with all its rights, with a power of settling it on his wife and children . . . . Also to my son Thomas two pieces of ground adjoining the parsonage . . . . To my third son Samuel Alford the sum of £650 at 4 per centum. To my daughter Fanny a copyhold estate belonging to the Vicarage of Weston [Zoyland].

And whereas I am possessed of two Leasehold Estates, one of which lies at Liney, and the other at Lakewell, within the Parish of Weston aforesaid, I give the said Estates to my daughter Fanny. My MSS. to my son Thomas. My great Bible to Richard. £5 to the poor of Ashill and Weston. My son Richard sole executor."

P.C.C. 339 *Collier.*

Ashill, Somersetshire :—

"Underneath lies interred the body of
Thomas Alford, A.M.,
Prebendary of Wells, and late Vicar of
Ashill and of Weston-Zoyland :
who married Mary, daughter of Richard Standfast,
late of Cheddon Fitz-Paine in the County of Somerset,
Gent., by whom he had five children, one of which
died in his infancy, four are left behind to lament
the loss of him. Obiit Salutis nostræ 1777, Ætatis suæ 74.
'Pastor fidelis, et probitatis singulari :
Egenis liberalis, omnibus benevolus'."

"Also here lies the body of Mary Alford,
Wife of the aforesaid Thomas Alford,
who departed this life
January 11, 1763, ætat: suæ 51."

ALFORD PROPERTY.—The *Topographical Survey of the Counties of Somerset, Gloucester, etc.*, published in 1788, mentions both Thomas and Samuel Alford. Amongst the *Residences of the Gentry*—page 9—"About 8½ miles from Taunton we enter Ashill. On the left is the seat of the Reverend Thomas Alford". Amongst the *Gentry of Somerset* is included the "Reverend Samuel Alford", and there is ascribed to him a coat of arms; this, however, was the Powell coat, which was adopted by that branch of the Alford family on succeeding to the Heale Estate.

The Ashill Estate was known as "Proctor's", and is thus described in the Tithe Apportionment Book dated 1863:—"Landowner, the Reverend Charles Alford; Occupier, Mr. George Speke. Nos. on Parish Map: 345 and 346, House, Outbuildings, Barton and Shrubbery; 345A, Garden; 343, Orchard; 344, Orchard; 342, Cot Close, Meadow; 389, Proctor's Acre; 390, ditto; 391, Proctor's Two Acres, Pasture; 392, ditto, Pasture; 393, Withy Close; 393A, Waste plot; Total, 13 acres."

This property was held by the Rev. Thomas Alford, Rector of Ashill, who died 1777, by his son the Rev. Thomas Alford, Rector of Ashill, who died 1805, and by his grandson the Rev. Charles

Alford, Rector of West Quantockshead. The latter sold it in 1866, —the house and garden to the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, who pulled down the house, and added the garden to the present Rectory adjoining;—the rest of the land to the Spekes of "Jordans", who now hold it. About half-a-mile south lies "Parsonage Farm", which was held by the Reverend Charles Alford (No. 222, House, outbuildings and garden), John Coles Symes (No. 221, Lower Orchard), and Reverend Richard Symes (No. 223, Orchard).

Bishop Alford's Diary, May 1866, alludes to the approaching disposal of this Ashill property.

A parchment terrier of the Ashill "meadows, gardens, orchards, houses, etc.", has descended to the writer of these notes.

WESTON ZOYLAND REGISTERS.

1564,	Oct. 24.	Henrie Alford and Julian Woodroffe, married.
1567,	— —.	Matthew Alford, baptized.
1569,	Mar. 2.	Joan Alford, baptized.
1574,	Mar. 2.	Edward Alford, baptized.
1575,	Oct. 25.	Nicholas Rede and Julian Alford, married.
1590,	Oct. 18.	Matthew Alford and Maria Trevillian, married.
1595,	June 20.	Andrew, sonne of Matthew Alford, baptized.
1597,	Nov. 11.	Agnes, daughter of Matthew Alford, baptized.
1598,	Jan. 10.	Agnes Alford, buried.
1598,	Oct. 21.	Andrew Alford, buried.
1599,	Sept. 12.	Thomas, sonne of Matthew Alford, baptized.
1602,	Dec. 27.	Agnes, fil. . . . . Alford, baptized.
1606,	Jan. 30.	Thomas, filius Thomæ Alford, baptized.
1607,	May 23.	John Alford, buried.
1609,	Dec. 31.	Richard, sonne of Mathew Alford, baptized.
1610,	Jan. 20.	Edward S . . . . . Mary Alford, married.
1612,	Apr. 7.	Henrie Alford, buried.
1620,	Apr. 18.	Elleana Alford, buried.
1627,	Apr. 29.	Thomas Alford, buried.
1628,	June 5.	Mary, wife of Matthew Alford, buried.
1628,	Oct. 14.	Thomas Alford and Ales Sealey, married.
1629,	Oct. 4.	Joan, daughter of A . . . . . Alford, baptized.
1632,	Apr. 29.	Mary, daughter of A . . . . . Alford, baptized.
1633,	Oct. 7.	Matthew Alford and Agnes Croydon, married.
1634,	July 29.	Humphrey Yame and Agatha Alford, married.
1635,	Jan. 22.	Agnes, daughter of Al . . . Alford, baptized.
1635,	Jan. 22.	Ales, wife of Thomas Alford, and Agnes, daughter, buried.
1635,	May 2.	Richard Alford mared Thomsen Coggan.
1636,	Sept. 10.	Ann, daughter of Thomas Alford, baptized.

1638, Sept. 27. Thomas, sonne of Thomas Alford, baptized.
1638, Sept. 30. Mary, daughter of Thomas Alford, buried.
1639, Jan. 10. Joan, daughter of Thomas Alford, buried.
1639, May 1. Mathew Alford, buried.
1639, June 20. Thomas Cary and Agnes Alford, married.
1641, Oct. 9. Richard, sonne of Thomas Alford, baptized.
1642, Apr. 29. Mr. Richard Alford, buried.
1649, Aug. 6. Mathew, sonne of Thomas Alford, baptized.
1653, Jan. 7. Edith, daughter of Thomas Alford, baptized.
1665, Feb. 25. Mary, daughter of Richard Alford and Letitia his wife, baptized.
1666, July 22. Thomas Alford, buried.
1671, Feb. 19. Mary, daughter of Richard Alford and Letitia his wife, baptized.
1671, Oct. 21. William Bragg and Mary Alford, married.
1672, Dec. 27. Thomas, son of Richard Alford and Lettice his wife, baptized.
1693, May 13. Francis Godfrey and Thomzin Alford, married.
1693, Dec. 5. Richard Alford, buried.
1730, May 29. Mr. Samuel Alford was buried.
1736, May 29. Richard the son of the Rev. Mr. Thomas Alford and Mary his wife was baptized.
1739, Mar. 31. Thomas the son of the Rev. Mr. Thomas Alford and Mary his wife was baptized.
1739, May 27. Thomas Alford, infant, was buried.
1742, Dec. 25. Thomas the son of the Rev. Mr. Thomas Alford and Mary his wife was baptized.
1747, Jan. 2. Samuel the son of the Rev. Mr. Thomas Alford and Mary his wife was baptized.

NORTH CURRY REGISTERS.

1609, June 5. Nicholas Alford, gent., buried.
1616, Mar. 29. Margaret Alford, buried.

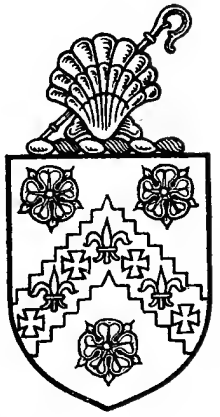
HIGH HAM REGISTERS.

1718, Nov. 13. Johannes Gould, clericus, of Chestock, co. Dorset, and Leticia Alford, virgo, of Westonzoyland, *licence.*

Table X.

Alford of Ashill, etc., Somerset.

"THE BISHOP'S BRANCH."



NOTE:—*Those marked * are entered in the Pedigree recorded at Heralds' College.*

*1. Thomas Alford, Vicar of Ashill, and of Chard, Somerset; b. 1742; d. 1805; m. *Sarah Coles.* See TABLE IX.

- *Lætitia*, of Up-Lyme; b. 1782; d. 1869
- *Edward Wynne Alford, b. 1783; d. 1839, s.p.
- *2. Charles Alford, Rector of West Quantockshead (St. Andries), Somerset; b. 1787; d. 1869; m. *Elizabeth Symes.*
  - *Mary*, b. 1820; d. 1896; m. Edw. Freeman.
    — *Frances*, b. 1822; d. 1900; m. George Okell.
    — *Eliza*, b. 1823; d. 1874; m. Benj. Weall.
    — *Sarah*, b. 1826; d. 1860; m. Chas. Price.
    — *Lucy*, b. 1827; d. 1893; m. John Moulding.
    — *Susan*, b. 1828; d. 1839.
  - *3. Charles Richard Alford, Bishop of Victoria, b. 1816; d. 1898; m. (1) *Sarah Fleet*, who d. 1876; m. (2) *Emma Sheardown.*
    - *Sarah*, b. 1842; d. 1842.
    - *Harriet*, b. 1845; d. 1847.
    - *7. Charles John Alford, b. 1843; m. 1871, *Mary Helena*, dau. of the Rev. William *MacDermott.*
      - **Marion Grace*, m. 1900, Henry Lawrence Ormerod, M.D.
      - *George Leslie Alford, b. 1875; d. 1876.
      - **Agnes Mary.*
      - — **Violet.*
    - *8. Josiah George Alford, b. 1847, Vicar of Stoke Bishop; Hon. Canon of Bristol; m. 1871, *Catherine Mary*, dau. of Colonel *Leslie*, C.B.
      - *Charles Symes Leslie Alford, b. 1885, of Corpus Christi College, Cambridge.
    - *9. Robert Gervase Alford, b. 1848; of the Home Office; m. 1879, *Marion*, dau. of James *Ashburner.*
    - *10. Sir Edward Fleet Alford, Kt., b. 1850; d. 1905; m. 1886, *Helen Nathalie*, dau. of Colonel *Shand*, Indian Staff Corps.
      - **Lætitia Helen.*
      - *Edward John Gregory Alford, b. 1890, of King's College, Cambridge.
  - *4. Thomas Alford, b. 1818; d. 1864; m. *Elizabeth Boulton.*
    - *Elizabeth*, m. W. B. Green.
    - — *Mary*, b. 1842; d. 1875; m. Rev. V. F. Ransome.
    - — Thomas Alford, b. 1844; m. *Sarah Margaret Ogg.*
    - — *Frances*, m. Homfray.
    - — Charles George Alford, b. 1848; m. *Elizabeth Nott.*
    - — Henry King Alford, b. 1852; m. *Augusta Kales.*
    - — Richard Symes Alford, b. 1854; m. *Rachel G. Ogg.*
    - — William Boulton Alford, b. 1854; m. *Fitz-Gerald.*
  - 5. Henry Alford, b. 1825; d. 1906; m. *Julia Emma Oborn*
    - *Louisa Emma Amelia.*
    - — Richard Symes Alford, b. 1849; m. *Kirby.*
    - — Henry Thomas Alford, b. 1852; m. *Stevens.*
    - — *Elizabeth Mary.*
    - — *Emma*, m. Leonard Guy.
    - — Arthur Benjamin Alford, b. 1861; m. *Susan Augusta Simmonds.*
    - — *Lucy Ann.*
    - — *Georgiana*, m. Hughes.
    - — Charles Chubb Alford, b. 1874; m. *Worsley.*
  - 6. Samuel Alford, b. 1830; d. 1890; m. *Cassen.*
    - Charles Alford.
    - — *Mary Ann.*
    - — John Alford.
    - — Samuel Alford.
    - — Arthur Alford.
    - — Henry William Alford.

All of New South Wales.

The Alfords of Ashill, etc., Somerset.

THIS senior line, commonly called "The Bishop's Branch", of the Alfords of Somersetshire, descended from the Weston Zoyland stock through the second son of the Rev. Thomas Alford, vicar of that parish, whose eldest son Richard died without issue. (See Table IX.)

1. **Thomas Alford,** son of the above Thomas Alford and Mary his wife, was baptized at Weston Zoyland on Christmas Day 1742. He matriculated at Brasenose College, Oxford (where his father had been before him), in 1761, aged 19, as "fil. Cler.", and graduated B.A. in 1765. Taking Holy Orders he became rector and vicar of Ashill,* and also vicar of Chard. By the death of his brother Richard he became head of the family, and held the property both at Weston Zoyland and at Ashill. Thomas Alford married in 1781 *Sarah*, daughter of John *Coles*, vicar of Bridgwater.

COLES.—The Rev. John Coles, A.M., was vicar of Bridgwater from 1742 to 1785, and family tradition says that he possessed only thirty sermons, which he preached in his grand old parish church over and over again, annually, through nearly the half century. He was, nevertheless, "highly esteemed as a parson", and it is recorded that "he was exceeding busy and clamorous during the Parliamentary elections", receiving an adverse deputation "with a stream of cold water"—literally—from the parish fire engine, which was kept at that time in the porch of his church! His portrait (painted in 1774), in gown and bands, has descended to the compiler. The late

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* Until 1858 Ashill was a Peculiar.

The children of Thomas Alford and Sarah his wife were :—

i. *Letitia*, baptized at Ashill 9 July 1782. She died, unmarried, at Up-lyme, in 1869, and was buried at Ashill, where the following inscription is to be found :—

"In memoriam Letitia Alford,
who died at Lyme Regis,
19 June 1869, aged 86.
The daughter of
The Reverend Thomas Alford,
Formerly vicar of this Parish."

ii. *Edward Wynne Alford* of Bridgwater, baptized at Ashill 30 November 1783. He was "weak in mind and body", and dying unmarried in 1839, was buried 29 November at Ashill.

iii. *Charles Alford*, of whom next (**2**).

iv. *Frances*, born 1788; married, 1811, at Bleadon, Somerset, Morley Chubb, merchant, of Bridgwater. She died in 1850.

Thomas Alford's signature, as here given, is taken from a letter addressed to Mr. Richard Symes, solicitor, of Bridgwater (brother of the John Symes mentioned

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General Thomas Gordon Coles and his son "Pasha" Charles Ed. Coles, C.M.G., continued this family, through which also a connection was made between the Alfords of Somerset and the Bullers of Devon. Another daughter of Mr. Coles, Susannah, married John Symes, surgeon, of Bridgwater, and became the mother of John Coles Symes, a well-known London lawyer of the last century, of 31, Fenchurch Street, and of The Cedars, Clapham. Some further notes on the Symes family will necessarily follow.

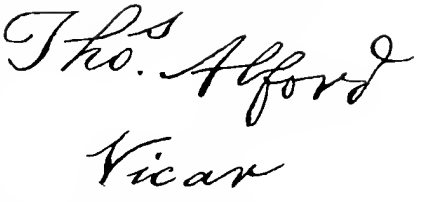
CHUBB.—Morley Chubb, merchant, of Bridgwater, had, by his marriage with Frances Alford, eight sons and four daughters. The eldest son, John Chubb, solicitor, of Cirencester, married Caroline Tudway, and died s.p. in 1859. Of the other sons, Hammond Chubb was for thirty years secretary to the Bank of England, and died s.p. in 1904; while Thomas Alford Chubb, the third son, was secretary, and afterwards treasurer, to the South Eastern Railway Company. He married Margaret Lyon, and died in 1883, leaving four sons, the youngest being John Burland Chubb, F.R.I.B.A., of London.

CHARLES ALFORD,
Rector of St. Audries.

Charles Alford

To face p. 135.

above), whose daughter afterwards married Mr. Thomas Alford's son. The letter concerned money arrangements with the Rev. John Coles. Thomas Alford "died of gout in the stomach", and was buried at Ashill 18 July 1805, his wife surviving him seventeen years. The abstract of his Will runs as follows :—



"Thomas Alford of Ashill, in the co. of Somerset, clerk in holy orders, 1805 . . . . Richard Alford of Exeter and Sarah his wife . . . . my nephew and godson Samuel, son of my brother Samuel Alford . . . . my nephew Thomas, second son of my said brother . . . . my niece and god-daughter Maria Catherine Ann Vere, second daughter of the late Mr. Nicholas Vere of Up-Lyme, in the co. of Devon, clerk . . . . my sister Fanny his wife."

(From the Original Will.)

Monumental Inscriptions. Ashill, Somersetshire :—

"Underneath lies the body of the
Rev. Thomas Alford, M.A.,
Rector and Vicar of this Parish,
and Vicar of Chard in this county for 35 years.
He married Sarah, eldest daughter of
John Coles, A.M., Vicar of Bridgwater,
by whom he had four children
who are left to bewail his severe loss.
He departed this life July 18, 1805,
Aged 63 years."

"Also the body of Sarah, wife of
the aforesaid Thomas Alford,
who departed this life February 6, 1822.
They lived respected, and died lamented."

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2. Charles Alford, second son of the above Thomas and Sarah, was born at Ashill 24 January 1787. He matriculated at Balliol College, Oxford, in 1805, the year

of his father's death, and took his B.A. in 1809. He was ordained to the curacy of Bleadon, Somerset, and in 1814 was presented by Miss Balsh to the rectory of St. Audries', West Quantockshead, which living he held fifty-five years. The year following he married *Elizabeth*, daughter of Richard *Symes*, solicitor, of Bridgwater and of Cannington.

The Rev. Charles Alford and Elizabeth his wife had issue:—

i. *Charles Richard Alford*, Bishop of Victoria, of whom next (**3**).
ii. *Thomas Alford*, of whom hereafter (**4**).
iii. *Mary*, born 1820, died 1896; married Edward Freeman, merchant, of Manchester.
iv. *Frances*, born 1822, died 1890; married George Okell, merchant, of Manchester.
v. *Eliza*, born 1823, died 1874; married Benjamin Weall, gentleman, of Wood Hall, Pinner, Middlesex.
vi. *Henry Alford*, of whom hereafter (**5**).
vii. *Sarah*, born 1826, died 1860; married Charles Price, M.D., of Swansea.
viii. *Lucy*, born 1827, died 1893; married John Moulding, warehouseman, of Manchester.
ix. *Susan*, born 1828, died 1839.
x. *Samuel Alford*, of whom hereafter (**6**).

SYMES.—Mr. Symes was a descendant of the old Somerset family of Symes of Poundisford Park, near Taunton, through the second son of Thomas Symes of Winterbourne, near Bristol, who had married into the Brydges family. By this marriage with Elizabeth Symes a connection was also formed with the ancient family of Sydenham of the same county, Mr. Richard Symes having married Betty, only child and heiress of John Sydenham of the Westowe Manor branch of that family, of which the Brympton line came to an end by the death, s.p., of Sir Philip Sydenham, bart., in 1739, and the Orchard Wyndham line by that of George Francis, Earl of Egremont, in 1845. A plot of ground called Sydenham's Marsh, which was held by Humphrey Sydenham in 1581, has thus descended to the compiler, together with some portraits and many interesting relics of both the Symes and Sydenham families.

Charles Alford inherited the Ashill property from his father, but was obliged to sell it, owing in a great measure to his love for a smart mail-phæton, and pair of high-stepping horses, which is a youthful recollection of the compiler.

Charles Alford
Rector
C Alford.

In his younger days he frequently drove a tandem, and once having a horse that was a bad crib-biter he sold it, of course at a loss, and a month or so later bought a taking animal at the Bridgwater Fair. A good price was given for the new purchase, and the rector drove it home with pride. Next morning his groom greeted him with the cry:—"If yer baint been and bought the same old crib-biter over again." And so it proved! At an increased price he had bought back the same horse, clipped and docked, and disguised for the Fair.

Growing infirm in his later years Mr. Alford put a curate into his rectory, and retired to Exeter. He died there intestate, some two years afterwards, aged 84, and was buried at St. Audries, 13 November 1869. The grave is immediately outside the south wall of the chancel, and on the wall within is a small brass, bearing the arms and inscription:—

On a chevron azure between three roses proper, three fleurs-de-lys.

"In memory of
the Rev. Charles Alford, B.A.,
Balliol College, Oxford;
fifty-five years Rector of this Parish.
Born 1786; Died 1869;
and buried beneath."

The widow died at Clifton, Bristol, eight years later. Her will and monumental inscription follow:—

"Elizabeth Alford, widow of the late Rev. Charles Alford, rector of St. Audries', West Quantocks-head, in the co. of Somerset . . . .

my son the Lord Bishop of Victoria . . . . my silver stand bearing the family arms . . . . my daughter Mary Freeman . . . . my daughter Fanny Okell . . . . my daughter Eliza Weall . . . . my daughter Lucy Moulding . . . . my grand-daughter Mary Freeman Okell . . . . residue to my said son Charles Richard Alford, Bishop. My said son, and my brother the Rev. Richard Symes, of Cleeve, Yatton, Somerset, Executors." Dated 17 March 1870. Witnesses, James N. Haggett and Jane Stone. (Proved 1877.)

From Original Will.

At Arno's Vale Cemetery, Bristol:—

"Elizabeth Alford,
widow of the
Reverend Charles Alford,
Rector of St. Audries, Somerset.
Died at Clifton, 18 Oct. 1877.
Aged 90.
'At Evening-time it shall be light'."

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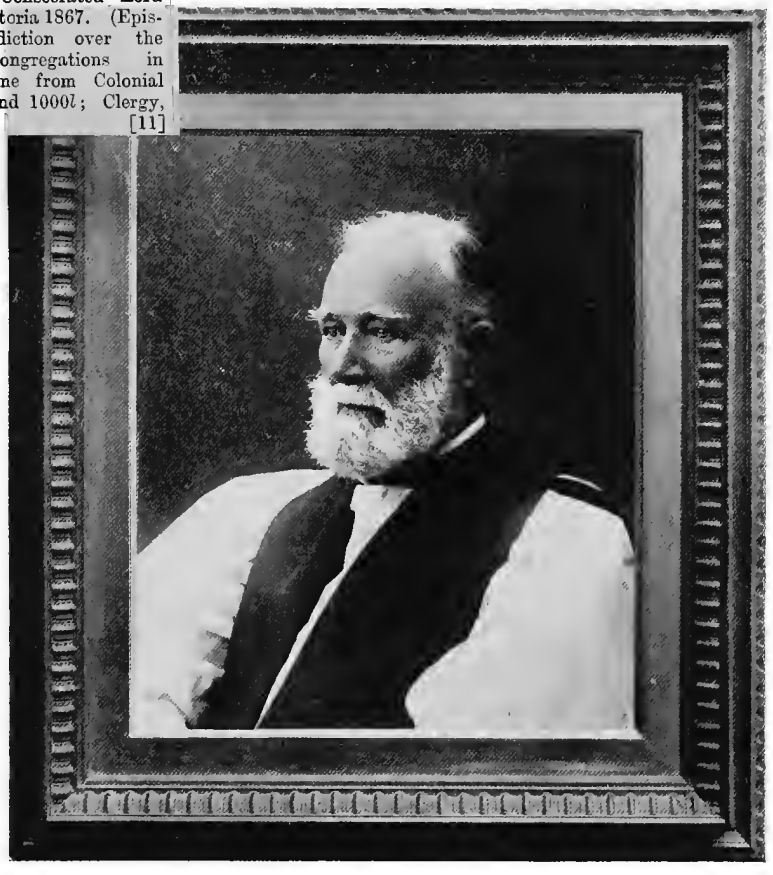
3. Charles Richard Alford, eldest son of the above Charles and Elizabeth Alford, was born at St. Audries Rectory, 13 Aug. 1816. At the age of eight he was sent to London, and placed under the care of John Coles Symes, who was first-cousin to both his father and his mother. Having being entered at St. Paul's School, he passed in due time, with "the Camden"—a valuable scholarship—to Trinity College, Cambridge, taking his B.A. in 1839, M.A. in 1842, and D.D. in 1867. Ordained by the Bishop of Lincoln to the curacy of Finningley, he became successively Incumbent of St. Matthew's, Rugby, Vicar of Christ Church, Doncaster, and then for ten years Principal of the Metropolitan Training College at Highbury. On 2 February 1867, he was consecrated, in Canterbury Cathedral, Bishop of Victoria,

CHARLES RICHARD ALFORD,

Bishop of Victoria.

VICTORIA, **The Right Rev. Charles Richard ALFORD,** Lord Bishop of Victoria, *Victoria, Hong Kong, China.*—Trin. Coll. Cam. B.A. 1839, M.A. 1842, D.D. 1867. Consecrated Lord Bishop of Victoria 1867. (Episcopal Jurisdiction over the English Congregations in China; Income from Colonial Bishopric Fund 1000*l*; Clergy, 19.) [11]



Chas. R. Alford
Bishop.

To face p. 138.

Hong Kong, an appointment of the ~~Foreign~~ Office. Colonial Retiring in 1872, he afterwards administered for a time the Diocese of Huron, Canada, settling in his later years at Kensington, and finally at Brighton. The nomination was made by the Earl of Car

"Bishop Alford in the advanced years of his retirement was a very regular member of the C.M.S. Committee, where he was noted for his geniality, and for the rather unusual combination of decided Protestantism with a vigilant guardianship of the rightful position of a Bishop." *(History of C.M.S., Vol. iii, p. 796.)*

Charles Richard Alford married first, at St. Margaret Pattens, London, 21 July 1841, *Sarah Jacosha*, daughter of John *Fleet*, of Fenchurch Street. She died 22 October 1876, and is interred in the Bidstone Cemetery, Cheshire, where is the following inscription:—

"Sarah Jacosha Alford,
the beloved wife of
The Right Reverend Bishop Alford, D.D.,
Sometime Bishop of Victoria.
She fell asleep in Jesus on the 22nd of
October 1876; in the 60th year of her age."

The children of Charles Richard Alford and Sarah his wife were:—

i. *Sarah*, born and died 1842; buried in the chancel of St. Matthew's, Rugby.
ii. *Charles John Alford*, of whom hereafter (**7**).
iii. *Harriet*, born 1845, died at Doncaster 1847.
iv. *Josiah George Alford*, of whom hereafter (**8**).
v. *Robert Gervase Alford*, of whom hereafter (**9**).
vi. *Edward Fleet Alford*, of whom hereafter (**10**).

FLEET.—These Fleets were of the Buckinghamshire and London family, of which Sir John Fleet, Lord Mayor of London 1692, was the most notable member. John George Fleet, brother of Mrs. Alford, died at Chiswick in 1902 "in an honoured old age", having been one of the founders of the Church of England Sunday School Institute, and closely associated with much religious work. He married Esther Faithfull, a lady of remarkable talents, both literary and artistic. John Faithfull Fleet, C.I.E., Admiral Henry Louis Fleet, and Rutland Barrington Fleet, are their sons; and Admiral E. J. Fleet, their nephew.

Bishop Alford married, secondly, September 26, 1877, *Emma*, daughter of Edward *Sheardown*, solicitor, formerly of Doncaster, who survives him.

Bishop Alford died at Tunbridge Wells, June 13, 1898, in his 82nd year, and was buried in the cemetery there, under a recumbent cross of polished red granite, on which is the following inscription :—

"Charles Richard Alford, D.D.,
Sometime Lord Bishop of Victoria,
Born at St. Audries Rectory, Somersetshire,
August 13, 1816,
Died at Tunbridge Wells,
June 13, 1898. Aged 81 years.
'Waiting for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ'."

His will in abstract was as follows :—

"Charles Richard Alford, Doctor of Divinity, sometime Bishop of Victoria, dated 15 April 1896. Proved 1898. My wife Emma Alford sole Executrix. My debenture stock in the Great Western Railway . . . . to my son Charles John Alford . . . . money in the hands of Messrs. Thompson, of 38, Mincing Lane, in the city of London . . . . my son the Rev. Josiah George Alford . . . . My son Robert Gervase Alford . . . . my son Edward Fleet Alford . . . . my sister Mrs. Frances Okell . . . . my niece Constance Annie Fleet . . . . The silver plate presented to me and engraven with a mitre to Josiah George Alford and Edward Fleet Alford, my two sons who have children to inherit it. My wife shall have during her lifetime all the remainder of my silver plate . . . . Teapot with inscription . . . . Silver soup ladle and twelve table spoons to my son Robert. To my son Edward my sapphire ring, being a memorial ring of Daniel Wilson, Bishop of Calcutta, formerly the property of my cousin John Coles Symes, and given by him to his cousin, the Rev. Richard Symes, who gave it to me, his nephew. My gold watch, given to me by Miss Anne Mary Fleet, and engraven with a mitre and initials C.R.V., to my granddaughter Marion Grace Alford. The gold watch chain formerly worn by my father, the Rev. Charles Alford, with four seals attached, to my son Robert. The portrait of his great-great-grandfather John Coles, Vicar of Bridgwater, to my son Josiah. My books and manuscripts . . . . Residue to my wife."

(*From Original Will.*)

Bishop Alford died head of his family; and through his mother Elizabeth Symes, and through his grandmother Betty Sydenham—there being no male heir in either case—was the direct lineal representative of the Bridgwater branch of the family of Symes, and of the Westowe branch of the ancient family of Sydenham. All three families were of the co. of Somerset, in which county Bishop Alford was a landowner, holding the farms of Budleigh and Powell's, near Taunton, at the time of his death, which passed by entail to his son Josiah George Alford. The north transept window in Cleeve Church is filled with stained glass as a memorial in his native county, while a canopied episcopal throne in the Cathedral at Hong Kong was erected as a memorial in his Colonial Diocese.

It will now be convenient to deal with the other sons of the Rev. Charles Alford, of St. Audries.

4. Thomas Alford, second son of Charles Alford and Elizabeth his wife, was born in St. Audries Rectory, 16 Sept. 1817, baptized privately Oct. 1st, and received into church May 10th in the following year. With his elder brother he was taught in childhood by a governess at home, and, following his brother to London in due time, lived in 31, Fenchurch Street, with John Coles Symes and his sister Mary Symes, and attended the "Merchant Tailors'", a celebrated London Public School.

An incident of this London life is worthy of record. The two boys, pining for their country freedom, surreptitiously and laboriously carried stores of earth up the many stairs of the tall city house, and gaining access through a window to a small lead flat, made there a garden on the roof. Their terribly dangerous journeys to and fro were at length observed by an opposite

neighbour, a message was sent across the street, and a stern prohibition brought the boys' *rus in urbe*, with its perilous joy, to an end.

His school days over, Thomas Alford bade farewell to England, never to return. Sailing for Australia, he made his way to Queensland, and settled at length at Toowoomba, on the Darling Downs. There he prospered, and marrying (7 Aug. 1839) *Elizabeth*, eldest daughter of George *Boulton* of West Maitland, brought up a large family, who are spreading and prospering in Queensland and New South Wales. Thomas Alford died at Toowoomba when only forty-seven years of age, 9th Jan. 1864, his widow surviving him forty-one years, and passing away at Toowoomba 12th Oct. 1905.

The family of Thomas Alford and Elizabeth his wife is as follows :—

i. *Elizabeth*, born 9 June 1840, at Paterson; married at Toowoomba, 1860, William Benjamin Green, of Mondure, Burnett; and, leaving six sons and four daughters, died at Toowoomba, 25 October 1905, a few days only after the death of her mother.

ii. *Mary*, born 7 May 1842, at Clifford; married at Toowoomba, 25 June 1861, the Rev. Vincent Frederick Ransome, who, returning to England, became rector of Compton Bassett, Wiltshire. She died in 1875, leaving six sons and one daughter, and was buried at Chetnole, Dorset, where they had lived (Mr. Ransome being the curate in charge), on their return from Australia.

iii. *Thomas Alford*, eldest son, born at Drayton, 11 October 1844. "Holds a good position in Brisbane." He married, 3 January 1872, *Sarah Margaret*, eldest daughter of Edward *Ogg*, J.P., of Ipswich, Queensland. Their children are :—

1. *Thomas Edward Alford*, born 26 January 1873.
2. *Ernest Henry Alford*, born 16 March 1875.
3. *George Vernon Alford*, born 1 June 1877.
4. *Florence Mary*, born 29 July 1879.

5. *Violet Elizabeth*, born 30 December 1882.
6. *Leslie Gerald Alford*, born 18 April 1885.
7. *Constance Isabel*, born 15 May 1887.
8. *Robert Dudley Alford*, born 4 April 1893.

iv. *Frances*, born 8 August 1846, at Drayton; married at Toowoomba, 29 December 1868, Francis Sutherland Homfray; died in India, at Peshawar, 18 March 1886, leaving two sons and four daughters. Mr. Homfray died in Calcutta, 18 Oct. 1888.

v. *Charles George Alford*, second son, born 23 May 1848, at Drayton, co. Aubigny, New South Wales. He married at Bundaberg, 2 December 1873, *Elizabeth Crofton*, youngest daughter of John *Nott*, of Bundaberg, and settling in Sydney became a chief in the Bank of New South Wales. Their children are:—

1. *Ethel Marianne*, born at Mount Perry, 23 September 1874.
2. *Herbert Lionel Somerset Alford*, born at Warwick, Queensland, 5 November 1876.
3. *Leofric Crofton Alford*, born at Toowoomba, 23 January 1882.
4. *Alan Charles Windermere Alford*, born at Bundaberg, 20 July 1883.
5. *Gordon Beresford Alford*, born at Toowoomba, 18 February 1885.

vi. *Henry King Alford*, third son of Thomas Alford, then of Toowoomba, and Elizabeth his wife, was born there, 22 July 1852. He is a banker in Brisbane, and married, at Allora, 20 November 1883, *Augusta Florence*, only daughter of Francis *Kates*, of Hendon, Allora. Their children are:—

1. *Clifford Somerset Alford*, born 23 April 1885, at Allora, Darling Downs, Queensland.
2. *Linda Marm*, born at Allora, 9 July 1887.
3. *Francis Somerset Alford*, born at Allora, 24 March 1889.
4. *Ethel*, born at Roma, 14 February 1893, died 14 March 1893.
5. *Ronald King Somerset Alford*, born 20 February 1898, at Roma.

vii. *Richard Symes Alford*, twin son of Thomas and Elizabeth Alford, was born at Brisbane, 16 October 1854. He married at Normanby, 2 December 1893, *Rachel Gordon*, daughter of Edward *Ogg*, J.P., of

Ipswich, Queensland, and widow of Charles Warner. Their children are :—

1. *Rachel Gordon*, born 12 September 1894 ;
2. *Doris Symes*, born 3 October 1895 ;
3. *Jean Elizabeth*, born 2 April 1898 ;
all three at Yeronga, Brisbane.

viii. *William Boulton Alford*, twin son of Thomas and Elizabeth Alford, was born at Brisbane, 16 October 1854. He settled at Roma, and married at Cooktown, 27 June 1884, *Kathleen Carlton*, youngest daughter of R. A. *Fitz-Gerald*. Their children are :—

1. *Alma Fitzgerald*, born at Brisbane, 19 April 1885.
2. *Kenneth Fitz-Gerald Alford*, born at Roma, 12 June 1887.

We now return to :—

5. Henry Alford, third son of the Rev. Charles Alford and Elizabeth his wife, was born at St. Audries Rectory, West Quantockshead, 16 February 1825. He received a business training, and after some years in the clerical department of the Great Western Railway Company, entered the government service in Somerset House. He married 11 January 1847, *Julia Emma Oborn*, of Wincanton, Somerset ; and dying at New Farm, Ealing, 3 July 1906, was buried at the St. George's Cemetery, Hanwell, Middlesex. The children of Henry Alford and Julia his wife were :—

i. *Louisa Emma Amelia*, born at Bayswater, 28 March 1848.

ii. *Richard Symes Alford*, of Hanwell, Middlesex ; born at Wincanton, Somerset, 12 October 1849 ; married *Miss Kirby*.

iii. *Henry Thomas Alford*, of Harlesden ; born 28 November 1852 ; married *Miss Stevens*.

iv. *Elizabeth Mary*, of Bayswater ; born 25 December 1855.

v. *Emma*, born 25 April 1859; married 15 October 1887, Leonard Samuel Guy, of West Ealing.

vi. *Arthur Benjamin Alford*, of New Farm, Ealing; accountant to the Brentford Gas Company; born 9 October 1861; married 18 March 1885, *Susan Augusta Simmonds*, of Worcester. Their children are:—

1. *Claude Percival William Alford*, born at Chiswick, 1 July 1886.
2. *Arthur Norman Alford*, born at Chiswick, 15 September 1887.
3. *Elsie Marguerite Lucy*, born at Chiswick, 8 September 1889.
4. *Charles Ronald Alford*, born at Chiswick, 23 April 1892.

vii. *Lucy Ann.*

viii. *Georgiana*, born 24 February 1867; married 29 September 1890, Walter Arthur Hughes, artist, of Harlesden.

ix. *Charles Chubb Alford*, of Wealdstone, Harrow; born 25 November 1874; married *Elizabeth Worsley.*

6. Samuel Alford, fourth and youngest son of Charles and Elizabeth Alford, of West Quantockshead, was born at St. Audries Rectory in 1830. Following the example of his brother Thomas, though not with equal future success, he too emigrated early in life. He married a Miss *Cassen*, and settled in New South Wales. Their children, so far as the compiler has been able to ascertain, are:—

i. *Charles Alford*,
ii. *Mary Ann*,
iii. *John Alford*,
iv. *Samuel Alford*,
v. *Arthur Alford*, and
vi. *Henry William Alford;* all of New South Wales.

We now return to the direct line of the family, through the sons of Bishop Alford and Sarah his first wife.

7. Charles John Alford, eldest son, was born at Rugby, 2 August 1843. He was educated at the Doncaster Grammar School, and later at a London School of Science, gaining some early mining experience in Wales. After some years in the Peninsular and Oriental service he became a mining Inspector and Engineer, in which profession he has gained considerable repute, being spoken of as "one of the best-known of our mining-engineers". He is the author of several technical works, amongst others :—*Engineering Notes on Cyprus*, 1880; *Geological Features of the Transvaal*, 1891; *Ancient and Prospective Gold Mining in Egypt*, 1900. He is a great traveller, a Fellow of the Geological Society, and a member of the Society of Engineers.

Mr. C. J. Alford married, in 1871, *Mary Helena*, daughter of the Rev. William *MacDermott*, formerly of Montrose, N.B., and afterwards Chaplain of the Westminster Hospital. They have no family.

8. Josiah George Alford, second son of the Bishop, was born at Doncaster 1 January 1847, and educated at the Islington Proprietary School and at King's College, London. He matriculated at Corpus Christi College, Cambridge, 1866, and proceeded B.A. in 1869, and M.A. in 1873. Ordained at Chichester to the curacy of St. Leonard's-on-Sea, he shortly moved to Cleeve, Somersetshire, and in 1873 to Bristol, as Minor Canon. In 1880 he became Vicar of St. Nicholas', Bristol, serving for one year also as Chaplain to the Lord Mayor, Sir Robert

Symes. In 1895 he was presented to the Vicarage of Stoke Bishop, near Bristol, and in 1897 was appointed an Honorary Canon of Bristol Cathedral, and in 1905 Rural Dean of Stapleton. Serving since 1878 as Chaplain to the Gloucestershire Volunteer Artillery, he was awarded the Long Service Medal in 1896, and the Volunteer Decoration in 1899. Canon Alford is the compiler of these family notes, and the author of several items of church music.

Josiah George Alford married at St. Leonard's-on-Sea, 26 September 1871, *Catherine Mary*, third daughter of Colonel John Thomas *Leslie*, C.B., Bombay Horse Artillery, afterwards Commandant at Warley. Their children are :—

i. *Marion Grace*, born and baptized at Cleeve, Somerset; married 8 May 1900, Henry Lawrence Ormerod, M.D., of Westbury on Trym.

ii. *George Leslie Alford*, born at the Old Deanery, Bristol, 21 August 1875, baptized in the Choir of the Cathedral; died at 98, Marina, St. Leonard's-on-Sea, 23 October 1876, and buried in the Hastings Cemetery.

iii. *Agnes Mary*, born at the Old Deanery, Bristol; baptized in the Cathedral—the first baptism in the new Baptistery and Font.

iv. *Violet*, born in Berkeley Square, Bristol; baptized in St. Nicholas' Church.

v. *Charles Symes Leslie Alford*, born in St. Nicholas' Vicarage, Bristol, 7 February, 1885; baptized by his grandfather, Bishop Alford, 6 April, in St. Nicholas' Church—Dr. Cornish, now Bishop of Grahamstown, being a sponsor. Educated at Marlborough. Matriculated 1903 at Corpus Christi College, Cambridge; Captain and Instructor of Musketry in the University Volunteers; B.A. 1907. He is of the seventh generation of University-men of his family, and ~~is preparing for Holy Orders.~~ was ordained in Durham Cathedral, on Whitsunday, 1908, the seventh generation in holy orders.

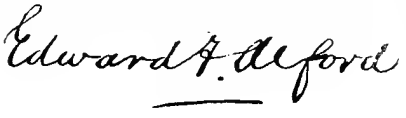
Still continuing the family of Bishop Alford we come to :—

9. Robert Gervase Alford, third son of the Bishop, was born at Doncaster 25 July 1848. He was a scholar of King's College, London, and trained as a civil engineer under Mr. Henry Carr—then engaged in rebuilding Blackfriars Bridge. Going out to China with his father in 1867, he entered the Colonial Service as Assistant-Engineer at Hongkong; and later, after ten years of private practice in the East, was employed at Portsmouth for the Torpedo Range works, and at Dover for the Harbour of Refuge Survey. In 1886 he was appointed Assistant-Surveyor of Works to the Prison Department in Scotland, living in Edinburgh. In 1902 he was moved to London, to a post under the Prison Commission at the Home Office, and lives at Hampstead. He became F.R.G.S. in 1878, M. Inst. C.E. in 1884, and F.R.S.E. in 1894.

Mr. R. G. Alford married, 6 Nov. 1879, at Christ Church, Claughton, Cheshire, *Marion*, eldest daughter of James *Ashburner* of Fernleigh, Oxton. They have no children.

The last of Bishop Alford's family :—

10. Sir Edward Fleet Alford, knt., was born 30 June 1850, and baptized 13 August at Christ Church, Doncaster. He, too, went out with his father to China in 1867, and entered the service of Jardine, Matheson and Co., at Hongkong, becoming later a partner and representative of the firm at Shanghai, where he was also a Justice of the Peace. He retired in 1900, and lived in Ken-



sington. In 1901 Lord Lansdowne, Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, asked for his assistance at the Foreign Office and Board of Trade with reference to a new commercial treaty with China. In August that year the London "Times" stated :—

"We are informed by the Foreign Office that Sir Alfred Bateman and Mr. E. F. Alford, late Chairman of the Shanghai Chamber of Commerce, are engaged in revising the duties of the Tariff for the forthcoming negotiations with the Chinese Government."

The Treaty was signed in the autumn of 1902, and the Birthday Honour List, Nov. 9, stated :—

"His Majesty has been pleased to confer the honour of Knighthood upon E. F. Alford, Esquire."

The notification was published that :—

"Mr. Alford has received his knighthood on the recommendation of the Foreign Office, for important services in connection with the China Tariff."

The King's Speech on the prorogation of Parliament, 18 December 1902, contained the following paragraph :—

"I have concluded with his Imperial Majesty the Emperor of China a commercial treaty, which promises to secure not only for this country, but for the commerce of the world, valuable facilities and advantages."

Edward Fleet Alford married, 2 Sept. 1886, at St. Matthew's, Ealing, Middlesex, *Jane Eliza Helen Nathalie*, daughter of the late John *Shand*, Lieut.-Colonel Madras Staff Corps ; and left issue :—

i. *Lætitia Helen*, born at Bowdon, Cheshire.

ii. *Edward John Gregory Alford*, born 3 April 1890, at Bowdon, and baptized 8 June at Bowdon Parish Church by Archdeacon Gore. Educated at Tonbridge School, and entered at King's College, Cambridge.

Sir Edward Alford died, 18 March 1905, at the Boltons, South Kensington, and his remains were buried

at Cleeve, Somerset, where a polished grey granite cross marks his grave.

EXTRACTS FROM REGISTERS.

Ashill, Somerset.

1618, May 11. Thomas Alford and Joan Hawkins, married.
1763, Jan. 18. Mary, the wife of the Rev. Thomas Alford, buried.
1770, Mar. 30. Nicholas Vere, bachelor, parish of Ilminster, and Fanny Alford, spinster, married by *licence*.
1777, Feb. 26. "The Rev. Mr. Thomas Alford was buried."
1782, June 4. Mr. Richard Alford, buried.
1782, July 9. Letitia, daughter of Rev. Thomas Alford and Sarah his wife, baptised.
1783, Nov. 30. Edward Wynne, son of Rev. Thomas Alford and Sarah his wife, baptised.
1787. "Charles ye son of the Rev. Thomas Alford and Sarah his wife, was born on ye 24th January 1787, was privately baptised on the Sunday following, and admitted into the Church on ye 5th day of July in the same year."
1805, July 18. "The Rev. Thomas Alford was buried."
1822, Feb. 6 [?]. Sarah Alford, of Bridgwater, buried.
1839, Nov. 29. Edward Wynne Alford, of Bridgwater, buried.

St. Mary's, Bridgwater.

1781, Sept. 18. "Thomas Alford, clerk, of Ashill, and Sarah Coles of Bridgwater, married (*licence*) by John Coles, Vicar."
1815, Nov. 27. "Charles Alford, clerk, of West Quantockshead, and Elizabeth Symes of Bridgwater, married (*licence*) by W. Wollen, Vicar."

St. Audries, West Quantockshead, Somerset.

1816, Aug. 19. (Privately) Charles Richard, son of Charles and Elizabeth Alford, Rector of the parish, baptised. (Received publicly October 18.)
1817, Oct. 1. (Privately) Thomas, son of Charles and Elizabeth Alford, Rector of the parish, baptised (10th of May 1818, received into Church.)
1869, Nov. 13. The Reverend Charles Alford, Rector of this parish, aged 84 years, buried.

ST. MARGARET PATTENS, CITY OF LONDON.

1841, July 21. Charles Richard Alford, Clergyman, son of Charles Alford, Clergyman, and Sarah Jacosho Fleet, daughter of John Fleet, of 141, Fenchurch Street, married (*licence*) by Josiah Pratt, B.D.

ST. STEPHEN'S, COLEMAN STREET, CITY OF LONDON.

1847, Feb. 25. Josiah George (born 1 Jan. 1847), son of Charles Richard and Sarah Jacosho Alford of Doncaster, baptised by Charles Richard Alford, Incumbent of Christ Church, Doncaster.

CHRIST CHURCH, DONCASTER.

1850, Aug. 13. Edward Fleet, son of Charles Richard and Sarah Jacosho Alford, baptised by Charles Richard Alford, Incumbent.

ST. LEONARD'S CHURCH, ST. LEONARD'S-ON-SEA, SUSSEX.

1871, Sept. 26. Josiah George Alford, son of Charles Richard Alford, Bishop of Victoria, and Catherine Mary Leslie, daughter of John Thos. Leslie, C.B., Colonel (deceased), were married by Charles R. Victoria.

ST. NICHOLAS', BRISTOL.

1885, April 6. Charles Symes Leslie Alford, son of Josiah George Alford, Vicar, and Catherine Mary his wife, baptised by Chas. Rich. Alford, D.D., Bishop.

ST. MATTHEW'S, EALING, MIDDLESEX.

1886, Sept. 2. Edward Fleet Alford, son of Charles Richard Alford, Bishop, and Jane Eliza Helen Nathalie Shand, daughter of John Shand (deceased), Lt.-Colonel Madras Staff Corps, were married by Charles Richard Alford, D.D., Bishop.

BOWDON PARISH CHURCH, CHESHIRE.

1890, June 8. Edward John Gregory, son of Edward Fleet Alford and Jane Eliza Helen Nathalie his wife, baptized by A. Gore, Vicar and Archdeacon.

Table XI.

Alford of Curry Rivel, etc., Somerset.

THE "DEAN'S BRANCH".

1. Samuel Alford [See TABLE IX], of Heale House; Vicar of Curry Rivel; Dean of St. Burian; b. 1747; d. 1799; m. *Mary*, dau. of Samuel *Bush*, of Ilminster, Som.

- 2. Samuel Alford, of Heale House, Vicar of Muchelney; b. 1776; d. 1854; m. *Rebecca*, dau. of Thomas *Shute*, of Charmouth, Dorset.
- Thomas Alford, Lieutenant, R.N.; killed on H.M.S. "Triton"; b. 1779; d. 1801; unmarried.
- *Anne*, b. 1781; d. 1848; m. Wm. Byrt Morgan.
- 3. Henry Alford, Rector of Aston Sandford; b. 1782; d. 1852; m. (1) *Sarah Pagel*; (2) *Susannah Barber*.
  - 4. Henry Alford, Dean of Canterbury; b. 1810; d. 1871; m. *Frances Alford*. (Two daughters.)
  - 5. Bradley Hurt Alford, of Gloucester Gardens, W.; b. 1837; m. *Margaret Lyall*. (Two daughters.)
- *Harriet*, b. 1784; d. 1856, m. Charles Gibson.

POWELL ARMS.

- 6. Samuel Alford, Rector of Upper Helmsley, Yks.; b. 1803; d. 1886; m. *Tickell*.
  - Charles Edward Alford, b. 1848; of Crewkerne; m. *Griffin*.
  - Wm. Hy. Alford, b. 1854; d. 1891, s.p.
  - Francis Alford, b. 1855; m. *Leegood*.
  - Ernest H. Alford, b. 1860; d. 1904, s.p.
  - Five daughters.
- 7. Thomas Alford, of Heale Cottage, Curry Rivel; b. 1805; d. 1884; m. *Foster*.
  - Herbert Alford, b. 1838; d. 1893; of Weston-s.-Mare; m. *Jones*.
  - Clement Alford, b. 1840; d. 1891, s.p.; Vicar of Westbury.
  - Martin Alford, b. 1846; of Minehead; m. *Buskell*.
  - One daughter.
- 8. Henry Alford, Surg., of Taunton; b. 1806; d. 1898; m. 1, *Pring*, 2, *Norman*.
  - Henry James Alford, M.D., b. 1836; m. (1) *Micklethwaite*; (2) *King*.
  - Daniel Pring Alford, of Taunton, b. 1838; m. *Tancock*.
  - Samuel Alford, b. 1843; d. 1882; Surgeon, of Southsea; m. *Wolrige*.
  - Two daughters.
- 9. Walter Alford, V. of Drayton; b. 1808; d. 1892; m. 1, *Harris*, 2, *Goldin*.
  - Walter Goldin Alford, b. 1845; d. 1889, s.p.
  - Robert Alford, of Heale House, J.P.; b. 1848; m. *Gruebber*.
  - William Powell Alford, b. 1859; Vicar of Dawlish; m. *Harrison*.
  - Three daughters.
- *Rebecca*, b. 1810; d. 1891; m. Morgan.
- *Frances*, b. 1811; d. 1878; m. Dean Alford.
- *Mary*, b. 1813; d. 1893; m. Trenchard.
- *Octavia*, b. 1814; d. 1860.
- *Harriet*, b. 1817; d. 1847; m. Norman.
- *Eliza*, b. 1819; d. 1856; m. Foster.
- 10. Richard Alford, Surgeon, of Weston-sup.-Mare; b. 1816; d. 1903; m. *Zincroft*.
  - Rich. Frank Alford, b. 1849; d. 1882, s.p.
  - Geo. Ernest Alford, b. 1853; d. 1895; m. *Rimington*.
  - Henry Powell Alford, b. 1856; m. *Rimington*.
  - Arthur Alford, b. 1858; d. 1882, s.p.
  - Two daughters.
- 11. Stephen Alford, Surgeon, of Hampstead; b. 1821; d. 1881; m. *Aspinwall*.
  - William Alford, b. 1849; d. 1903; Solicitor, of Clifton; m. (1) *Smart*; (2) *Alford*.
  - Frederick Alford, b. 1850; d. 1907; unmarried; Surgeon, of Haverstock Hill.
  - One daughter.
- 12. George Alford, Vicar of Mangotsfield; b. 1823; m. *Field*.
  - Allan Cameron Alford, b. 1855; m. *Lory*.
  - Geo. Percy Alford, b. 1858; m. *Johnson*.
  - Sidney Field Alford, b. 1864; m. *Sowter*.
  - Cecil Ernest Alford, b. 1867.
  - Two daughters.

The Alfords of Curry Rivel, etc., Somerset.

THIS second line, commonly called "The Dean's Branch", of the Alfords of Somersetshire, descended from the Weston Zoyland stock through the youngest son of the Rev. Thomas Alford, vicar of that parish. (See Table IX.)

1. Samuel Alford (senior), son of the above Thomas Alford and Mary his wife, was born at Weston Zoyland, and baptized there January 2nd, 1747. He matriculated at Wadham College, Oxford, in 1765, graduating B.A. in 1769, and M.A. in due course; and, taking Holy Orders, became vicar of Curry Rivel in 1771. Four years later he married *Mary*, "daughter of Samuel *Bush*, of Ilminster, esquire", and became the founder of this important branch of the family. Their children were:—

i. *Samuel Alford*, of whom next (**2**).

ii. *Thomas Alford*, born April 30, and baptized at Curry Rivel 6 May 1779. Entering the Navy his life was cut short by an accident, as recorded on a mural tablet in Curry Rivel Church:—

"Sacred to the memory of
Lieutenant Thomas Alford of the Royal Navy,
whose remains are interred in
Stonehouse Chapel near Plymouth.
He was unfortunately killed by the bursting
of a gun on board H.M.S. "Triton",
on the 7th day of March, 1801,
in the 22nd year of his age."

iii. *Anne*, baptized at Curry Rivel 8 January 1781, when four days old. She married, 1799, William Byrt

Morgan, banker, of Shepton Mallet, Somerset, and died 1848. Their son, William Francis Morgan married his first cousin, Rebecca Shute Alford; and their daughter, Martha, married Richard Allen, and died in Clifton, 28 June 1905,—"full of years and of good works."

iv. *Henry Alford*, of whom hereafter (**3**).

v. *Harriett*, born June 7, and baptized at Curry Rivel 17 June 1784. She married in 1829 Charles Gibson, a Cambridge graduate, but of no profession, who died early in life. She died in 1856 at Weston-super-Mare—"a pretty old lady."

Samuel Alford founded "a Sunday's School at Curry Rivell" in 1786, "to check the profanation of the Sabbath among the poor children of the parish." The rules he made read strangely at this later date :—

"A proper Person to be appointed who shall teach the children every Sunday, in reading, and learning the Church Catechism, for which he shall be allowed Five Pounds a Year . . . . .

"The School-hours from Lady-Day to Michaelmass to begin at 7 O'Clock in the Morning and continue till 7 in the Evening; and from Michaelmass to Lady-Day from 8 o'clock in the Morning till 5 in the Afternoon . . . . .

"Those Parents who Obstinately refuse to send their children to the School shall be deemed improper Objects to receive any Charity that shall be distributed in the Parish . . . . .

"The Master to see the Scholars come clean to School, and attend constantly every Sunday with them at Church . . . . .

"The children to be Publickly catechised by the Minister every Sunday Month after the Evening Service, and to be examined every Quarter by any of the Subscribers as to their proficiency in reading" . . . . .

The Accounts include the purchase of "Bibles, Prayer-Books, Reading made Easy, Horn Books", and "a box to keep the Books in" . . . . .

Five shillings "for teaching the children to sing", and "five shillings for a quarter's salary for playing on the German Flute to the Scholars of the Sunday's School".

In 1787 Samuel Alford inherited the Heale Estate from his cousin, Miss Mary Powell (she having held it

SAMUEL ALFORD,
Vicar of Curry Rivel,
Dean of St. Burian.

Samuel Alford

To face p. 154.

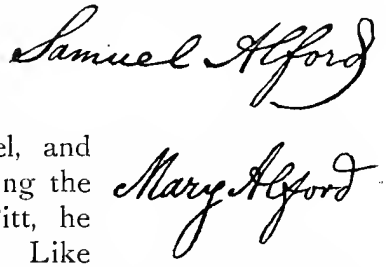
since the death of her brother Henry Powell, High Sheriff for the co. of Somerset), and then "removed from the Vicarage house and went to live at Heale."

An incomplete Terrier of the Heale property, taken in part from a lease granted by Samuel Alford, gives the following details:—

"Heale House or the Mansion House.
The Lawn and Heale Close, 30 acres.
The Orchard; the Mead.
The Home Field.
The Farm house and Cottage.
Pigeon house plot.
Hangman's orchard; Pittard's wood.
Duckpool meadow.
Cox's wood; Stoneley closes.
Speke's mead; Wickmoor; Redcroft.
Etc., etc. Total, 166 acres."

The chief feature of the "Lawn"—in reality a small Park—is its fine old walnut avenue, extending for some three hundred yards from inner to outer gate, and leading from Heale House towards the Burton Pynsent Monument. The usual entrance-drive passes up an avenue of mixed trees, the Turkey oak being prominent. Some grand old chestnuts occupy a central position, towards which a third avenue—of chestnuts—was planted by Samuel Alford when he came into possession.

The Deanery of St. Burian (a "Peculiar") was conferred upon Samuel Alford through the influence of Lord Chatham, whose seat —Burton Pynsent—was in the parish of Curry Rivel, and "with whose family, including the eminent statesman Mr. Pitt, he was on terms of intimacy." Like his father before him, Mr. Alford held the Commission of the Peace for his county. He died at Heale in 1799, his widow surviving him twenty-eight years. Both were buried in the Heale Vault beneath the south transept of



Curry Rivel Church. Their monumental inscriptions follow :—

In the south transept of Curry Rivel Church :—

"Near this spot are deposited the remains of
The Rev. Samuel Alford, A.M.
Dean of St. Burian, Cornwall,
and for 28 years Vicar of this Parish;
who, after a long and tedious illness,
departed this life on the 7th day of August, 1799,
in the 53rd year of his age."

"Mary Alford, widow of the above,
died March 19, 1827, aged 76 years,
and was buried in the same vault."

---

2. **Samuel Alford** (the second), eldest son of the foregoing Samuel and Mary Alford, of Heale, was born at Curry Rivel, and baptized there 25 March 1776. After some years at the then celebrated Ilminster Grammar School he matriculated in 1794 at Queen's College, Oxford, proceeding B.A. in 1797, and M.A. in 1800. Taking Holy Orders, he served as chaplain to Lady Chatham, and afterwards became vicar of Muchelney. Inheriting the Heale Estate on the death of his father, he lived at Heale House, where, having married, in 1802, "*Rebecca*, daughter of Thomas *Shute*, esquire, of Charmouth, Dorsetshire," he brought up a family of thirteen children. These were:—

i. *Samuel Alford*, of whom hereafter (**6**).
ii. *Thomas Alford*, of whom hereafter (**7**).
iii. *Henry Alford*, of whom hereafter (**8**).

SAMUEL ALFORD,
Vicar of Muchelney,
Of Heale House.

Samuel Alford

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iv. *Walter Alford*, of whom hereafter (**9**).
v. *Rebecca Shute*, born 1810, married, 1842, William Francis Morgan, surgeon, of 2, Berkeley Square, Clifton. She died in 1891.
vi. *Frances Oke*, born 1811, married, 1835, Henry Alford, afterwards Dean of Canterbury. She died in 1878, in Kensington Palace.
vii. *Mary Bush*, born 1813, married, 1841, Henry Charles Trenchard, of Taunton, solicitor. She died in 1893.
viii. *Anne Octavia*, born 1814, died, unmarried, at Weston-super-Mare, 13 October 1860. Buried at Curry Rivel.
ix. *Richard Alford*, of whom hereafter (**10**).
x. *Harriet Jane*, born 1817, married, 1844, Henry Burford Norman, surgeon, of London and Southsea. She died in 1847.
xi. *Eliza Shute*, born 1819, married, 1846, Charles Millett Foster, solicitor, of North Curry, Somerset. His sister, Susanna, married Thomas Alford. She died in 1856.
xii. *Stephen Shute Alford*, of whom hereafter (**11**).
xiii. *George Alford*, of whom hereafter (**12**).

Mr. Samuel Alford added considerably to the Heale Estate, raising it to a total of 315 acres.

Samuel Alford died at Heale in 1854, and his widow the year following. His Will, and their monumental inscriptions are here given:—

"The Reverend Samuel Alford, of Heale House, within the parish of Curry Rivell, Co. Somerset, Clerk . . . . . To my dear wife Rebecca all my household furniture, cows, horses and carriages, and £700. All my lands and tenements to my wife, my brother the Rev. Henry Alford, and John Frederick Norman of Taunton, upon trust, to divide among my twelve children. Whereas I have advanced to my children certain sums as in the Schedule, I wish these sums to be considered as part of their portion . . . . . my sons Samuel, Henry, Thomas, Walter . . . . . my son Richard . . . . . My daughters Rebecca Shute wife of my nephew William Francis Morgan, Frances wife of my nephew Henry Alford [afterwards Dean of Canterbury], Harriet Jane wife of Henry Burford Norman, Mary Bush wife of Henry Charles Trenchard, and Eliza Shute wife of Charles Millet Foster . . . . . My son Stephen

Shute Alford . . . . . my son the Rev. George Alford . . . . . The trustees above mentioned to be also the Executors." Dated 20 August 1846. Proved by Rebecca Alford, widow, and John Frederick Norman, surviving Executors, 2 June 1854.

(*Prerogative Court of Canterbury.*)

Curry Rivel, Somerset (in the churchyard) :—

"Underneath are deposited the remains of the
Rev. Samuel Alford, M.A.,
of Heale in this Parish,
and formerly for many years
Incumbent of Muchelney.
He died March 22nd, 1854, aged 78 years."

"Also the remains of Rebecca Alford his widow,
who died February 2nd, 1855, aged 72 years."

3. Henry Alford (senior), the third and youngest son of Samuel Alford, senior, and Mary Bush his wife, was born in Curry Rivel Vicarage, December 3rd, 1782. He was educated at Blundell's celebrated school at Tiverton, matriculating at Wadham College, Oxford, in 1800, and graduating B.A. in 1804, and M.A. in 1811. He became a Fellow of Wadham, studied law, and was called to the Bar. In 1809 he married *Sarah Eliza*, daughter of T. Bradley *Paget*, banker, of Tamworth, by whom he had a son:—

i. *Henry Alford*, of whom next (4).

In 1811 he lost his wife; was ordained in 1813, at Quebec Chapel, London, to the Curacy of Steeple Ashton, Wilts; travelled with Lord Calthorpe to the field of Waterloo in 1817, and on to Rome. He held the livings of Ampton, Wingfield, Ampton (a second time), and Aston Sandford. In 1831 he married (secondly) *Susannah*,

daughter of John *Barber*, of Denmark Hill, by whom he had a son:—

ii. *Bradley Hurt Alford*, of whom later (**5**).

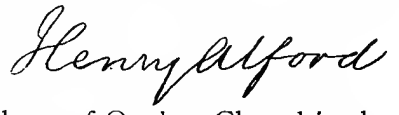
The Rev. Henry Alford died in 1852, and was buried at Curry Rivel, where the following inscription may be seen:—

"Underneath are deposited the remains of
Henry Alford,
late Rector of Aston Sandford in the Co. of Bucks:
and third son of Samuel Alford, A.M.,
formerly Vicar of this Parish.
He was born in the adjoining Vicarage House Dec. 3, 1782,
and died at Tunbridge, Septr. 23, 1852."

"Also of Susannah his wife, who died
May 31, 1869; aged 72 years."

---

4. Henry Alford, eldest son of the above Henry Alford, by Sarah his first wife, was born in London in 1810. He went to school, first at Charmouth and afterwards at Ilminster, spending his holidays at Heale House with his uncle and cousins. Entering at Trinity College, Cambridge, he became "Bell" Scholar, took a double-first degree in 1832, and B.D. and D.D. later. He was elected a Fellow of Trinity in 1834. Taking Holy Orders, he became Vicar of Wymeswold, then incumbent of Quebec Chapel in the West End of London, and in 1857 was appointed Dean of Canterbury. Marrying his cousin *Frances Oke*, daughter of the Rev. Samuel *Alford*, of Heale, their children were:—



i. *Ambrose Alford*, born 1840, died 1850.
ii. *Clement Alford*, born 1843, died 1844.

iii. *Alice*, married the Rev. William Thomas Bullock, Prebendary of St. Paul's; Chaplain of Kensington Palace.

iv. *Frances Mary*, married Rev. Henry Edmund Tilsley Cruso, Assistant Master, King's School, Canterbury, now Rector of Tunstall, Kent. She died in 1905.

Dean Alford was "a man of varied attainments and refined scholarship". Several books, poetry and prose, are the fruit of his authorship, but he is especially remembered as the writer of Alford's *Greek Testament*. He died in 1871, and was buried with public honours in the churchyard of St. Martin's, Canterbury, where the following inscription marks his grave:—

"Henry Alford, D.D.,
Dean of Canterbury.
Born Oct. 7, 1810; Died Jan. 12, 1871.
Deversorium viatoris Hierosolyman proficiscentis."*

"Also of Frances Oke Alford, his widow,
Born 19 August, 1811; Died 18 November, 1878."

A stained glass window, as a memorial to the Dean, was placed in the south choir Transept of Canterbury Cathedral, above which are two smaller windows in memory of his widow, while in the triforium are two others which the Dean gave as memorials to his two sons. A brass under the larger window bears this inscription:—

"*In memoriam Henrici Alford, S.T.P., Decani, qui ob. xii die Jan. mdccclxxi. Hanc vitream P.P. Amici.*"

Another, close by, runs:—

"*In piam memoriam Franciscæ Oke, Henrici Alford Decani viduæ, duas quæ supra sunt vitreas posuit A. Bullock filia natu major, ob. die Nov. xviii. A.S. mdccclxxviii.*"

* "The lodging place of a traveller journeying toward Jerusalem."—The Dean's own choice of words.

HENRY ALFORD,

Dean of Canterbury.

Leeds.—St. Bees; Deac. 1855, Pr. 1856 by Bp of Carl. C. of Lastingham, Dio. York, 1867. Formerly C. of Bowness, Cumberland; Lastingham, Yorks. 1867-70. [4]

HAKE, Robert, *The Precincts, Canterbury.*—St. Edm. Hall, Ox. B.A. (4th cl. Lit. Hum. and 3rd cl. Math.) and Boden Sanscrit Scho. 1845, Pusey and Ellerton Scho; Theol. Examination; and M.A. 1847; Deac. 1847, Pr. 1848 by Bp of Ox. Min. Can. of Cant. Cath. 1854; Precentor 1864. Formerly Chap. of New Coll. Ox. 1847-54; C. of Headington, Oxon. 1849; North Hincksey, Berks. 1849-51; Chap. of Warneford Asylum, Ox. 1851-54; R. of St. George the Martyr, with St. Mary Magdalene, Cant. 1866-69. Author, *Holy Matrimony*, 1855; *The Time is Short*, Sermon preached in Cant. Cath. on the death of Dean Alford, 1871. [5]

HAKE, Thomas Gordon, 3, *Old Steyne, Brighton.*—King's Coll. Lon; Assoc; Deac. 1866, Pr. 1867 by Bp of Chich. Formerly C. of St. Stephen's, Brigh-

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Henry Alford

To face p. 160.

1872

A marble bust of the Dean stands in the Cathedral Library, and a large portrait hangs in the Deanery.

The Life of Dean Alford, edited by his widow, was published by Rivingtons, 3rd edition, 1874.

An abstract of his Will here follows:—

"The Very Rev. Henry Alford, D.D., Dean of Canterbury. To my wife Frances Oke Alford absolutely all my real Estate, and also all my personal Estate, including all monies and property over which I have any power of disposition or appointment, subject to the Settlement made on the marriage of my daughter Alice with the Rev. William Thomas Bullock . . . . . and also subject to the Bond executed on the marriage of my daughter Frances Mary with the Rev. Henry Edmund T. Cruso . . . . . I appoint my said wife Executrix."

Dated 21 Aug. 1869. Proved 1871. Witnesses, Benj. Harrison, Archdeacon of Maidstone; J. O. Robertson, Canon of Canterbury.

From Original Will.

5. Bradley Hurt Alford, younger son of the Rev. Henry Alford, by Susannah, his second wife, was born at Ampton, Suffolk, 28 Aug. 1837. He was educated at Tonbridge School, and became a Scholar of Trinity College, Cambridge, graduating with classical honours in 1859. Taking Holy Orders in 1862, he was successively Curate of St. Michael's, Chester Square; Incumbent of Leavenheath, Suffolk; Curate in charge of Holy Trinity, Hoxton; and Vicar of St. Luke's, Nutford Place, Hyde Park; retiring in 1903. He was frequently a special preacher in Westminster Abbey; was Editor of *Greek Testament with Notes* (1879), abridged from Dean Alford's larger work, and of *Nutford Place Sermons.*

The Rev. B. H. Alford married, in 1865, *Caroline Alexa*, daughter of Charles James *Lyall*, of Westbourne Terrace, Hyde Park, and has two daughters:—

i. *Dorothy*, who took a first-class in the Nat. Science Tripos, Cambridge, 1888; and in 1894 married William H. Banks, banker, of Kington, Herefordshire.

ii. *Margaret*, who took a first class, first division, in the Classical Tripos, Cambridge, 1890; and is now Lecturer in Latin at Bedford College, London.

We now return to the sons of Samuel Alford (the second) of Heale House, and Rebecca his wife.

6. Samuel Alford (the third), their eldest son, was born at Heale 30 Oct. 1803, and baptized in Curry Rivel Church Dec. 29. Having been at the Ilminster Grammar School, he prepared in Bristol for a legal career, but later on entered Queen's College, Cambridge, graduating in 1841. He was ordained in 1842 to the curacy of Wymeswold, moving to Glasbury, Herefordshire, where he remained in sole charge till 1872, when the Lord Chancellor appointed him to the rectory of Upper Helmsley, Yorks. He married *Henrietta Whitter Tickell*, of Scone, Cornwall, and had eleven children:—

i. *Eliza Mary*, born at Chiddeock, Dorset.

ii. *Catherine Sarah*, born at Glasbury; died in infancy.

iii. *Charles Edward Alford*, born at Glasbury, 29 August 1848; educated at Crewkerne Grammar School, and University College Hospital, London; a medical practitioner, and District Medical Officer of Crewkerne, Somerset; married, 24 June 1879, *Mary Ann Griffin*, their children being:—

1. *Ethel*, born at Crewkerne.
2. *Mabel*, born at Crewkerne.
3. *Basil Alford*, died in infancy.

iv. *Frederick James Alford*, born 1849, died in infancy.

v. *Sarah Gundry*, born at Glasbury.

vi. *Agnes Oke*, born at Glasbury; married William Alford, of Crewkerne and of Clifton, solicitor.

vii. *Lucy Shute*, born at Glasbury; married, 1891, the Rev. Thomas Kerby Eaton, Vicar of Merriott, Somerset.

viii. *William Henry Alford*, born 2 August 1854; settled in Montreal, in the service of the Canadian Pacific Railway; married a Canadian, but died in 1891, leaving no children.

ix. *Francis Alford*, born 22 Dec. 1855; of Charlton, Kent; Commander of the Telegraph ship "Monarch"; married *Mary Elizabeth Leegood*, their children being:—

1. *Jessie Whitter.*
2. *Henrietta Mary Oke.*
3. *Samuel Francis Alford.*
4. *Robert George Freer Alford.*
5. *Edgar Stephen Alford.*
6. *Hilda Beatrice.*
7. *William Henry Alford.*
8. *Frederick Leonard Alford.*
9. *Gertrude Lucy.*
10. *Cecil Jasper Alford.*

x. *Catherine Tickell*, born at Glasbury.

xi. *Ernest Hender Alford*, born 20 Sept. 1860; settled in Canada, and died, unmarried, aged 43.

The Rev. Samuel Alford died at Upper Helmsley in 1886, where a marble cross marks his grave in the churchyard, with the following inscription:—

"In memory of
the Rev. Samuel Alford
15 years Rector of this Parish.
Died Nov. 10, 1886; aged 83."

"Also Henrietta Whitter Alford his wife,
who died Jan. 8, 1887; aged 69."

7. Thomas Alford, second son of Samuel and Rebecca Alford, was born at Heale, 24 April 1805, and baptized in Curry Rivel Church 16 September the same year. He married *Susanna*, daughter of John Hopkins

Foster, of Newport, North Curry, solicitor, and, living a quiet country life in Heale Cottage, brought up four children, viz. :—

i. *Herbert Alford*, born 12 October 1838; bank manager at Weston-super-Mare; he married *Maria Louisa Jones*, and left three children, viz. :—

1. *Charles Mitlett Alford*, born 26 March 1870; now living in Leicester.
2. *Herbert Thomas Marmaduke Alford*, born 24 July 1873, medical practitioner, of Weston-super-Mare. He married *Edith Violet Clay*, by whom he has a son, *Richard Marmaduke Alford*, born 27 August 1906, and two daughters—*Una Violet* and *Kathleen Iris*.
3. *Maria Isabel*, of Weston-super-Mare.

Herbert Alford died in 1893, and was buried in the cemetery at Weston-super-Mare, where the following inscription is on his grave :—

"In loving memory of
Herbert Alford,
who departed this life
on Sunday, the 29th September, 1893,
in the 55th year of his age."

---

ii. *Clement Alford*, born 1840, passed from Crewkerne School to Corpus Christi, Oxford, in 1859, graduated B.A. in 1863, and M.A. in 1866. He took holy orders, and after holding several curacies became Vicar of Westbury-sub-Mendip, where he died, unmarried, in 1891.

iii. *Rose*, who now occupies Heale Cottage.

iv. *Martin Alford*, born 19 June 1846; baptized at Curry Rivel Church. He took holy orders in 1877, and after holding some curacies, including Atworth, Wilts, and Brent Knoll, Somerset, became Vicar of Long Sutton, and, later, Rector of Treborough. Retiring, he now lives at Minehead, Somerset. He married, 7 June 1887, *Freda Annette*, daughter of Andrew *Bushell* of Atworth, Wiltshire, and has three daughters, viz. :—

1. *Frances Rose*, born at St. Briavel's.
2. *Daisy Oke*, born at Curry Rivel.
3. *Dorothy Freda*, born at Long Sutton.

Mr. Thomas Alford died in 1884, and his widow two years later. They were buried in the Curry Rivel churchyard, where is this inscription :—

"Thomas Alford
of Heale in this Parish.
died 13 October, 1884,
Aged 79 years.
Susannah, his wife,
Died 30 July, 1886, aged 77 years."

8. Henry Alford, third son of Samuel Alford, of Heale, was born at Heale in 1806, and after studying in Bristol and at St. Bartholomew's, entered the medical profession. Settling in Taunton in 1830, "he practised there with conspicuous success for over half a century." On retiring professionally he did much public work, serving as "Bailiff" of the borough, and Churchwarden of the grand old parish church of St. Mary Magdalene, Taunton. He was twice married; first, in 1835, to *Elizabeth Jane Pring*, by whom he had six children; and secondly, in 1846, to *Mary Andrews Norman* (whose brother, Henry Burford Norman, had married Harriet Jane Alford). Henry Alford's children were :—

i. *Henry James Alford*, M.D., of Taunton, Medical Officer of Health, born 1836, who married, first, *Matilda Micklethwaite*, by whom he had :—

1. *Edward Henry Micklethwaite Alford*, born 1859, now of Napier, New Zealand, married, and has one son and one daughter.
2. *Henry Stracey Alford*, born 1861, now in the United States.
3. *Arthur Powell Alford*, born 1865, now in Massachusetts.
4. *Francis William Alford*, born 1873, now in Canada.
5. *John Micklethwaite Alford*, born 1875, now in Canada; married, has one son and one daughter.

6. *Sophia Matilda*, born at Taunton.
7. *Anne Pring*, married Gorden Walsh, solicitor, of Oxford; died 14 May 1904.
8. *Mabel*, married Walter Morris, now a widow.
9. *Ethel*, born at Taunton.
10. *Edith Maud*, married Walter James Hill, surgeon, of Clevedon; Surgeon-Captain R.G.A. Volunteers.
11. *Lilian Maud*, married Arthur Mundy, of Cardiff.

Dr. Henry Alford married, secondly, in 1886, *Marian King*, by whom he has children:—

12. *Bernard Trevor Alford*, born 9 Dec. 1888
13. *Thomas Alford*, born 21 Dec. 1889.
14. *Leonard Alford*, born 26 Nov. 1891.
15. *Maria Victoria*, born at Taunton.

ii. *Henrietta Elizabeth*, born 1837, died at Taunton 1905. A zealous Christian worker; for twenty-five years Superintendent of the St. Mary Magdalene, Taunton, Sunday School. She had also considerable literary talent, especially in verse.

iii. *Daniel Pring Alford*, born 28 Nov. 1838, matriculated at Exeter College, Oxford, in 1857, graduating B.A. with honours in 1861, and M.A. in 1864. Ordained in 1862 he became Chaplain of the Scilly Isles, Rector of Apsley Guise, and Vicar of Houghton Regis, Bedfordshire, and finally Vicar of Tavistock. Retiring, he lives in Taunton, much occupied with literary work. He is the author of *A Tale of Tresco, The Retreat, and other poems, The Abbots of Tavistock*, etc. He married in 1864 *Charlotte Elizabeth Tancock*, daughter of a former Vicar of Tavistock, their family being:—

1. *Henry Powell Alford*, born and died 1868; buried at St. Mary's, Scilly Isles.
2. *Reginald Pring Alford*, born 13 Oct. 1869, now of Red Deer, Alberta; married *Helen Smith*, and has a daughter *Mildred*. A son died in infancy.
3. *Bertram Pring Alford*, born 30 April 1871, of Red Deer, Alberta; married *Elsie Sibbald*, having sons:—*Henry Charles Alford*, born 1898, and *Geoffry Daniel Alford*, born 1899; and daughters:—*Vera, Gladys, Sybil*, and *Winifred*.

4. *Charles Morris Pring Alford*, born 1872, died 1888, and buried at Tavistock.
5. *Alfred Henry Pring Alford*, born 1880, now of Pine Lake, Alberta.
6. *John Houghton Pring Alford*, born 1883, died 1901, and was buried at Trull.
7. *Emma Beatrice*, born at Tavistock.
8. *Mary Geraldine*, born at Tavistock.
9. *Winifred Kate*, born at Tavistock.
10. *Edith Marion*, born at Houghton Regis.

iv. *Elizabeth Mary*, born 1840, died at Taunton 1905. She wrote many romances, *e.g.*, *The Fair Maid of Taunton*, *Honor*, *Stanhurst*, *The Modern Don Quixote*, also stories in the *Quiver*, the *Argosy*, etc. *Sunday Sonnets* appeared in 1887, and in 1901 a second volume of *Poems*.

v. *Samuel Alford*, born 22 Feb. 1843, entered the medical profession, and practised at Southsea. He married, in 1872, *Mary Augusta Wolrige*, and died 21 Jan. 1882, leaving two children:—
1. *Cyril Wolrige Alford*, M.D., of Chelmsford, born 7 April 1873.
2. *Constance Mary*.

vi. *John Alford*, born and died at Taunton, 1844.

Mr. Henry Alford died in an honoured old age in 1898, and was buried with public manifestations of respect.

Monumental inscriptions are as follows:—

In the Taunton Cemetery:—

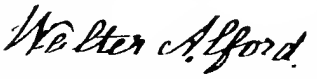
"In loving memory of
Henry Alford, F.R.C.S.
Born at Heale House, Curry Rivell,
17 July, 1806.
Died at Mountlands, Taunton,
29 June, 1898, in his 92nd year."

"Also of Mary Andrews his wife,
Born 26 Dec. 1802. Died 29 July, 1873."

In the churchyard of St. Mary Magdalene, Taunton:—

"Elizabeth Jane
the beloved wife of
Henry Alford, Surgeon, of Taunton.
Died March 5, 1845, aged 34 years."

9. Walter Alford, fourth son of Samuel and Rebecca Alford, was born at Heale, March 5th, 1808. He was educated at Ilminster School, and matriculated at St. Edmund Hall, Oxford, in 1826, graduating B.A. in 1830, and M.A. in 1833. He took Holy Orders, becoming Incumbent of Muchelney in 1843, and in 1848 Vicar of Drayton, Somerset. He succeeded his father in the possession of the Heale Estate, and for some years occupied the house. Later, however, he lived in the Vicarage house at Drayton, which he had rebuilt. He was twice married; first to *Martha Harris*, whose only son died in infancy, while she died in 1840; and secondly to *Lydia*, daughter of Robert *Goldin*, R.N., by whom he had three sons and three daughters, viz.:—



i. *Lydia Rebecca*, born at Stonehouse, Plymouth, 4 March 1843; her grave at Drayton bears the inscription:—

"Lydia Rebecca, eldest daughter of
the Rev. W. Alford, Vicar of this Parish,
who died 1st June, 1884, aged 41 years."

ii. *Walter Goldin Alford*, born at the Court House, Muchelney, in 1845, entered St. John's College, Cambridge, taking his degree in 1867. He was ordained, and became Vicar of Henton, Somerset. He died, unmarried, and was buried at Drayton.

"The Rev. Walter Goldin Alford,
Vicar of Henton, near Wells, Somerset,
who died 26th January, 1889,
Aged 43 years."

iii. *Robert Alford*, of Heale House, J.P. for the Co. of Somerset, eldest surviving son of the Rev. Walter Alford, was born at the Court House, Muchelney, 15 March 1848, and brought up at Heale. Educated at Marlborough, and at Wadham College, Oxford, where he took an honours degree in 1870. For twenty-seven years he was an assistant-master at Marlborough, and during the latter part of that time

HEALE HOUSE, CURRY RIVEL.

(See p. 181.)

house-master of Summerfield. He married in 1890 *Henrietta*, daughter of the Rev. Charles *Grueber*, Vicar of Hambridge, Somerset, and becoming the owner of the Heale Estate on the death of his father, made it his residence in 1904. Some interesting notes on Heale House and the Powell family will be found later.

iv. *William Powell Alford*, youngest son of Walter Alford and Lydia his second wife, was born at Drayton Vicarage in 1859. He was educated at Sherborne School, and at Corpus Christi College, Cambridge, graduating B.A. in 1882, and M.A. in 1885. He was one of the sixth generation (in unbroken line) to take Holy Orders; and having held the curacy of Exmouth, was appointed Vicar of Dawlish, South Devon, in 1895. He was also Rural Dean. William Powell Alford married, in 1897, *Louisa Caroline*, youngest daughter of Jonathan Stables *Harrison*, esquire, of Brandesburton Hall, Yorkshire.

v. *Jane Bush*, born at Muchelney; now lives at Dawlish.

vi. *Emily Ann*, born at Muchelney; now lives at Dawlish.

The Rev. Walter Alford lost his second wife in 1877, himself surviving her fifteen years, Both died at Drayton, where the east window of the church he served so faithfully, and loved so well, is beautifully filled with stained glass in his memory, and the window on the south side of the chancel in hers. Their grave in the churchyard bears the inscription:—

"Sacred to the memory of Lydia Alford,
the beloved wife of the Rev. W. Alford;
who died January 27, 1877, aged 60 years."

"Also of her husband Walter Alford,
44 years Vicar of this Parish,
who died 14 December, 1892, aged 84 years."

"The last Will . . . of Walter Alford, Vicar of Drayton, Somerset . . . . all my property . . . land, money, mortgages, plate, books, household goods, horse and carriage, ... to my children living at the time of my decease in equal shares . . . .

The Heale Estate shall not be sold for the purpose of the above division . . . . my son Robert to be allowed to purchase it at what shall be estimated its fair value, including the timber . . . . My sons Robert Alford and William Powell Alford, executors."
Proved 1892. *From original Will.*

10. Richard Alford, fifth son of Samuel Alford and Rebecca his wife, was born at Heale in 1816. Having been at the Ilminster Grammar School, he entered the medical profession, and practised for some years at Tewkesbury, settling, in 1855, in Weston-super-Mare, where he gained a high reputation as a doctor, and was held in great respect. He married, in 1846, *Frances Ann*, daughter of Robert *Zincroft*, of Bristol, by whom he had six children, viz. :—

i. *Ellen Maria*, born at Tewkesbury, married Charles Baly, dentist, of Harley Street, now retired and residing at Hampstead.

ii. *Richard Francis Alford*, born 1849, educated as an engineer, and died, unmarried, in 1882. His grave, in the Cemetery at Weston-super-Mare, has the inscription :—

"Richard Francis Alford,
Died December 9th, 1882,
Aged 33 years."

"Now, we see through a glass, darkly; but then face to face."

iii. *George Ernest Alford*, born at Tewkesbury in 1853, was educated at Clifton College, and later became a medical man of high qualifications. After a period as house-surgeon at the Westminster Hospital, he commenced private practice in Weston-super-Mare, quickly taking a leading position in his profession. He married, in 1879, *Annette Frances*, eldest daughter of Surgeon-Major *Rimington*, Indian Staff Corps, their family being :—

1. *Ernest Francis Rimington Alford*, born 30 Aug. 1880, now Medical Officer P. and O. SS. "Nubia".
2. *Arthur Cameron Rimington Alford*, born 26 Oct. 1882; passed through the Woolwich Academy, and holds a Commission in the Royal Artillery.
3. *Cyril Ernest Rimington Alford*, born 11 Nov. 1895.
4. *Eva Annette Rimington*, born at Weston-super-Mare.
5. *Irene May Rimington*, born at Weston-super-Mare.

Geo. Ernest Alford died in 1895 after a short illness brought on through overwork at the time of an influenza epidemic at Weston. He was accorded a public funeral, and a Ward was added to the local Hospital as a memorial to his worth. A marble cross marks his grave in the Weston Cemetery, bearing this inscription :—

"In loving memory of
George Ernest Alford,
M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.
Who entered into rest May 28, 1895."

---

iv. *Henry Powell Alford*, born at Weston-super-Mare in 1856, matriculated at New College, Oxford, in 1875, graduated B.A. (honours) in 1879, and M.A. later. Taking holy orders, he was presented to the Vicarage of Woodbury Salterton, Devon, in 1882, and was Rural Dean. He married, in 1883, *Amy Emmeline*, third daughter of the late Surgeon-Major *Rimington*, and now holds the College living of Worthen, Shropshire.

v. *Arthur Gomer Alford*, born 1858, died, unmarried, in 1882. Buried at Weston-super-Mare.

vi. *Annie*, born, and living, at Weston-super-Mare.

Mr. Richard Alford died in Oriel Terrace, Weston-super-Mare, in 1903, and was buried in the Cemetery. A mural brass in the Parish Church bears the following inscription :—

"Their surviving children placed this Tablet
in memory of
Richard Alford, F.R.C.S.,
and Frances Ann his wife;
Married in this Church June 2nd, 1846;
Died { March 30, 1903, in his 87th year.
{ January 7, 1884, in her 62nd year.
In hope of the Resurrection to Eternal Life."

11. Stephen Shute Alford, sixth son of Samuel and Rebecca Alford, of Heale, was born March 21, 1821. Educated at the Ilminster Grammar School and at University College, London, he entered the medical profession, and practised at Haverstock Hill. He also held the appointment of Medical Officer to the London and North Western Railway Company. He married, 28 June 1848, *Helen Aspinwall*, of Lydiate, Lancashire, by whom he had three children, viz. :—

i. *William Alford*, born 1849, was educated at Crewkerne School, and brought up for the law, practising as a Solicitor at Crewkerne, and later in Clifton. He married, first, *Mary Ellen Smart*, of Northcote, Cirencester, by whom he had five sons, viz. :—

1. *William Montagu Alford*, born in 1875, now of Bournemouth; married *Geraldine Edith Fitzgerald*, and has a daughter *Joyce*.
2. *Frederick Alford*, born 8 March 1877.
3. *Maurice Alford*, born 18 March 1879, now in St. John's, Newfoundland.
4. *Stephen Colin Alford*, born 30 May 1881.
5. *Archibald Hugh Alford*, born 17 May 1883; died in Australia, 1908, unmarried.

Having lost his first wife, Mr. William Alford married, secondly, *Agnes Oke*, daughter of the Rev. Samuel *Alford*, and had two sons :—

6. *Hubert Tickell Alford*, born 7 Sept. 1888, died in infancy.

7. *Ronald William Tickell Alford*, born 21st August 1891.

William Alford died in a London nursing-home, 5 March 1903, and was buried in the Greenbank Cemetery, Bristol.

ii. *Frederick Stephen Alford*, born 1850, followed his father in the medical profession, living also on Haverstock Hill, and died, unmarried, in 1906.

iii. *Helen Powell*, living at Cricklewood, Middlesex.

Mr. Stephen Alford died in 1881 from injuries received while attending to his medical duties on the Railway, being run over whilst crossing the line at Willesden Junction. He was buried in the Highgate Cemetery, where his grave is thus inscribed:—

"Stephen Shute Alford,
died July 5th, 1881,
Aged 60 years."

12. George Alford, youngest son of Samuel Alford of Heale and Rebecca his wife, was born 16 May 1823. Educated at the Crewkerne Grammar School, and at Queen's College, Oxford, where he graduated in 1846, M.A. 1849, he was ordained, and became successively rector of Aston Sandford, Vicar of Cookley, of St. Paul's, Bristol, and of Mangotsfield. In 1848 he married *Lucretia Reid*, daughter of Joseph *Field*, of Hatfield, Herts, by whom he had six children, viz.:—

i. *Allan Cameron Alford*, born 1855; graduated at Cambridge, Corpus Christi College, 1877, M.A. 1881; took Holy Orders, was Rector of Aston Sandford; now Vicar of Cuddington, Bucks. He married *Mary Lory*.

ii. *George Percy Alford*, born 1858; graduated at Cambridge, B.A. 1888, M.A. 1892; took Holy Orders, and after being his father's curate at Mangotsfield,

was appointed in 1899 Vicar of Wormleighton, Worc. He married *Alice Mary Johnson*, who died in 1906, and has children :—

1. *Robert George Alford*, born 1892.
2. *Percy Noel Alford*, born 1894.
3. *Howard Cameron Alford*, born 1897.
4. *Lucretia Mary.*

iii. *Sidney Field Alford*, born 1864 ; graduated at Durham, B.A. 1888, M.A. 1891 ; took Holy Orders, and in 1896 became Vicar of St. Andrew the Less, Clifton. He married *Harriette Lucy Sowter*, and has children :—

1. *Sidney Ernest Alford*, born 1892.
2. *Allan Charles George Alford*, born 1894.
3. *Arthur Frederick Alford*, born 1895.
4. *Kenneth Field Alford*, born 1898.
5. *Marjorie Victoria.*
6. *Eirene Violet.*

iv. *Cecil Ernest Alford*, born 1867 ; passed through the London College of Divinity, and was ordained in 1890. Vicar of Lowdham, Notts, since 1902.

v. *Harriette Lucretia*, married Nathaniel Strickland, Solicitor, of Clifton.

vi. *Florence Bertha*, married Wm. Manley Lory, Surgeon, now Dep. Inspector-General, R.N.

In 1898 the Rev. George Alford celebrated his golden wedding at Mangotsfield, he with his four sons—he of the fifth and they of the sixth generation in Holy Orders—taking part in Divine Service. Losing his wife two years later, he retired from his benefice, afterwards residing with his second son at Wormleighton.

EXTRACTS FROM PARISH REGISTERS.

Curry Rivel, Somerset.

1667, Aug. 11.	Mary, daughter of Edward Alford, baptized.
1670, Aug. 19.	Marmaduke Alford, buried.
1672, Apr. 19.	Marmaduke, son of Marmaduke Alford, buried.
1672, July 21.	Maria Alford, buried.
1672, Dec. 25.	Edith, widow of Edward Alford, buried.
1698, Nov. 10.	"Thomas Alford and Frances Powel", marriage.
1699, Sept. 13.	Letitia, daughter of Thomas Alford, baptized.
1701, May 27.	Richard, son of Thomas and Frances Alford, baptized.
1702, Dec. 15.	Robert, son of Robert and Mary Alford, baptized.
1703, June 15.	Thomas, son of Thomas & Frances Alford, baptized.
1705, July 4.	Samuel, son of Thomas & Frances Alford, baptized.
1706, Apr. 20.	Joan Alford, buried.
1708, May 19.	Marmaduke, son of Thomas and Frances Alford, baptized. Born May 1st, [*added*] "was drowned April 30, 1712."
1708, Burial.	"Thomas Alford, Vicar, September 16."
1720, May 22.	Marmaduke Alford and Ann Griffin, married.
1722, June 24.	Dorothy, daughter of Marmaduke and Ann Alford, baptized.
1728, Aug. 4.	Robert Alford, buried.
1730, July 5.	Dorothy, daughter of Marmaduke Alford, buried.
1736, June 27.	Mary Alford, widow, buried.
1737, Feb. 3.	Elizabeth, daughter of Robert Alford, buried.
1738, Apr. 30.	Betty, daughter of Robert and Love Alford, baptized.
1738, Dec. 13.	Ann, wife of Marmaduke Alford, buried.
1740, Dec. ?	Sarah, daughter of John and Mary Alford, baptized.
1742, Dec. 5.	John, son of Robert Alford, buried.
1742, Dec. 19.	Joan, daughter of Robert and Love Alford, buried.
1743, Feb. 13.	Sarah, daughter of John Alford, buried.
1744, June 15.	John, son of Robert and Love Alford, baptized.
1746, Aug. 3.	Joan, daughter of Robert Alford, baptized.
1747, Jan. 11.	John, son of John and Mary Alford, baptized.
1747, Oct. 22.	John, son of John & Mary Alford, buried.
1752, Apr. 12.	Dorothy, daughter of Marmaduke and Rachel Alford, baptized.
1755, Jan. 12.	John, son of Marmaduke and Rachel Alford, baptized.

1757, July 3.	Patience, daughter of Marmaduke and Rachel Alford, baptized.
1762, June 6.	Grace, daughter of Marmaduke and Rachel Alford, baptized.
1766, Sept. 15.	Thomas Alford and Mary Hughs, married *(licence)*.
1767, Mar. 29.	Robert Alford was buried.
1774, Dec. 21.	Marmaduke Alford, buried.
1776, Mar. 25.	"Samuel, ye son of the Rev. Samuel Alford and Mary his wife, baptized."
1779, May 6.	Thomas, son of the Rev. Samuel Alford and Mary his wife, baptized. Born April 30.
1779, Nov. 23.	Rachel Alford, buried.
1781, Jan. 8.	Anne, daughter of Rev. Samuel Alford and Mary his wife, baptized. Born January 4.
1782, Dec. 8.	Henry, son of the Rev. Samuel Alford and Mary his wife, baptized. Born Dec. 3.
1784, June 17.	Harriet, daughter of Rev. Samuel Alford and Mary his wife, baptized. Born June 7.
1791, May 8.	Daniel Alford, buried.
1795, May 31.	Sarah Alford, buried.
1795, Dec. 20.	Samuel Alford, buried.
1796, Jan. 10.	Jane Alford, buried.
1799, Aug. 13.	"The Rev. Samuel Alford, Vicar of this parish, buried."
1803, Dec. 29.	Samuel, son of the Rev. Samuel Alford and Rebecca his wife, baptized. Born Oct. 30.
1805, Sept. 16.	Thomas, son of the Rev. Samuel Alford and Rebecca his wife, baptized. Born April 24.
1806, Sept. 9.	Henry, son of the Reverend Samuel Alford and Rebecca his wife, baptized. Born July 17. (Signed) James Sedgwick, Vicar.
1808, Sept. 13.	Walter, son of the Revd. Samuel and Rebecca Alford, baptized. Born 5 March. (Signed) James Sedgwick, Vicar.
1816, May 29.	Richard, son of the Rev. Samuel Alford of Heale, Clerk, and Rebecca Alford, baptized. Performed by Samuel Alford.
1821, Mar. 21.	Stephen Shute, son of the Rev. Samuel and Rebecca Alford, Heale, Clerk, baptized.
1823, May 12.	George, son of the Reverend Samuel and Rebecca Alford of Heale, Clerk, baptized by Samuel Alford.
1854. Burial.	"The Revd. Samuel Alford, of Heale House, March 29th, age 78 years."

MUCHELNEY, SOMERSET.

1845, Apr. 15. Walter Goldin, son of Walter and Lydia Alford, Clerk and Incumbent, baptized by Samuel Alford.

1846, Aug. 17. Jane Bush, daughter of Walter and Lydia Alford, baptized by Walter Alford.

1848, May 3. Robert, son of Walter and Lydia Alford of Muchelney, baptized by Walter Alford, Clerk and Incumbent.

1851, Oct. 5. Emily Ann, d. of Walter and Lydia Alford of Muchelney; baptized by Walter Alford, Clerk and Incumbent.

DRAYTON, SOMERSET.

1859, Sept. 20. William Powell, son of Walter and Lydia Alford, of Drayton, baptized by Walter Alford, Clerk and Incumbent.

"OF THE BLOOD ROYAL OF ENGLAND was

SIR JOHN STOURTON, of Stourton, co. Wilts, and of Stavordale, co. Somerset, High Sheriff of Somerset," 1428 and 1431. "In direct descent from the King, and entitled to quarter the Plantagenet Arms" *(Harl. MSS.* 1110, 1155, 1074, *Brit. Mus. Lib.)* Married i, Catherine, d. of Lord Beaumont; ii, Jane, d. of Lord Bassett.

JOHN STOURTON, of Preston, co. Somerset, = iii, Catherine Payne.

JOAN ALICE STOURTON = John Sydenham, M.P., of Brympton, and Combe Sydenham, High Sheriff co. Somerset, 1465.

WALTER SYDENHAM, of Brympton, co. Somerset, d. 1469. = Margaret, d. of Sir Wm. Harcourt.

JOHN SYDENHAM, of Brympton, M.P., High Sheriff of co. Somerset in 1506. = Elizabeth, d. of Sir Humphrey Audley.

THOMAS SYDENHAM (younger son) of Whestow, co. Somerset. = Elizabeth, d. of Wm. Crosse, of Charlinch.

THOMAS SYDENHAM, of Westowe Manor, b. 1579; d. 1635. = Dorothy, d. of David Sellick.

THOMAS SYDENHAM, of Whestowe, b. 1614; d. 1662. = Marjorie Cridland.

JOHN SYDENHAM, of Westowe Manor, b. 1653; d. 1737. = Dorothy Venn.

THOMAS SYDENHAM, of Westowe Manor, b. 1688; d. 1730. = Margaret, d. of Edward Galhampton, of Tolland.

JOHN SYDENHAM, Balliol Coll., Oxford, of Bishop's Hull, Surgeon, b. 1726; d. 1790. = Elizabeth Clutterbuck.

BETTY SYDENHAM = Richard Symes, of Cannington, Bridgwater, b. 1755; d. 1826.

ELIZABETH SYMES = Charles Alford, Balliol Coll., Oxf., Rector of West Quantocks Head, b. 1786; d. 1869.

CHARLES RICHARD ALFORD, D.D., Bishop of Victoria, b. 1816; d. 1898.

General Somersetshire Notes.

Foster's *Alumni Oxonienses* gives the following entries concerning the Alford family :—

"Alford, Thomas, son of Richard Alford of Weston Zoyland, Somerset. All Souls, matric. 1688, age 16. M.A. from St. Mary Hall, 1695. Vicar of Curry Rivel, 1697."

"Alford, Thomas, son of Thomas Alford of Weston Zoyland, Somerset, clericus, Oriel, matric. 1721, age 19. B.A. Brasenose 1724. M.A. 1728."

"Alford, Thomas, son of Thomas Alford of Weston Zoyland, Somerset, clericus, Brasenose." (This entry is erroneously given in the *Alumni Oxonienses*, and is corrected from the official *Oxford Graduates*, 2121 D British Museum Library), matric. 1761, age 19, B.A. 1765.

"Alford, Samuel, son of Thomas Alford of Weston Zoyland, clericus. Wadham, matric. 1765, age 18. M.A. 1771."

"Alford, Samuel, son of Samuel Alford of Curry Rivel, clericus, Queen's College, matric. 1794, age 18. M.A. 1800."

"Alford, Henry, son of Samuel Alford of Curry Rivel, clericus, Wadham, matric. 1800, age 17. M.A. 1811."

"Alford, Charles, son of Thomas Alford of Ashill, Somerset, clericus, Balliol College, matric. 1805, age 18; Rector of West Quantockshead, Somerset, 1814."

"Alford, Walter, fourth son of Samuel (junr.), of Curry Rivel, clericus, St. Edmund Hall, matric. 1826, age 18, Vicar of Drayton, Somerset, 1848."

"Alford, George, youngest son of Samuel (junior) of Curry Rivel, clericus. Queen's College, matric. 1842, age 19. Vicar of Mangotsfield, Gloucester, 1881."

"Alford, Daniel Pring, son of Henry Alford of Taunton, armiger, Exeter College, matric. 1857, age 18. Vicar of Tavistock.

"Alford, Robert, son of Walter Alford of Muchelney, Somerset, clericus. Wadham, matric. 1867, age 19. M.A. 1874."

"Alford, Henry Powell, third son of Richard Alford of Weston-super-Mare, New College, matric. 1875, age 19, Vicar of Woodbury Salterton, Devon, 1882."

The *Cambridge University Calendars* and *Graduati Cantabrigienses* record the following admissions to the B.A. degree :—

"Henry Alford, Sidney Sussex College, 1822." (Of Bideford.)
"Henry Alford, Trinity, 1832, B.D. 1850." (Dean of Canterbury.)
"Viscount Alford, Magdalen, 1833." (Brownlow family.)
"Charles Richard Alford, Trinity, 1839, D.D. 1867." (Bishop of Victoria.)
"Samuel Alford, Queen's College, 1841." (Vicar of Helmsley, Yorkshire.)
"Bradley Hurt Alford, Trinity, 1859." (Vicar of St. Luke's, Nutford Place, W.)
"Walter Goldin Alford, St. John's, 1867." (Vicar of Henton, Somerset.)
"Josiah George Alford, Corpus Christi College, 1870." (Vicar of Stoke Bishop, Bristol.)
"Allan Cameron Alford, Corpus Christi College, 1878." (Vicar of Cuddington, Bucks.)
"William Powell Alford, Corpus Christi College, 1882." (Vicar of Dawlish.)

CURRY RIVEL, the centre of Alford family interests in Somerset for over two hundred years, is described by Collinson as "a very considerable village . . . . eleven miles east of Taunton." . . . "The Church stands on an eminence, and is a very handsome structure . . . . with large embattled tower." Burton Pynsent, the splendid mansion of the Earl of Chatham, was demolished in the last century, but the "Monument," a fine column of white stone, built in memory of Sir Wm. Pynsent, stands, a striking object for many miles around. Occupying a more sheltered position, between Church and Monument, is "Heale, a pleasant seat".

There were Alfords at Curry Rivel, besides those in the present line of the family, whose connection it seems impossible to trace; and some who distinctly had no such connection, bearing the name

of Alford only through that change of spelling and pronunciation, which was by no means uncommon in early days.

The will of *Edward Olferd* of Curry Rivel, proved seven years later, was witnessed in 1627 by Marmaduke Walsh, who was a Justice of Common Pleas, and lived at Fivehead. His descendant Marmaduke Walsh, gentleman, of Curry Rivel, died in 1731, and by his will left land at Curry Rivel "now in the tenure of Mr. Samuel Powell for the lives of Frances (who married Mr. Thomas Alford) and Jane, sisters of the said Samuel Powell."

The connection of the Alfords with the POWELL family was two-fold. First, and chiefly, through the marriage in 1698 of Thomas Alford of Curry Rivel with Frances Powell of Heale House, whose grandson Samuel Alford inherited in 1787 the Heale Estate, which estate has now passed through four generations of Alfords to its present owner Mr. Robert Alford. Secondly, through the marriage of John Powell of the Staplegrove family with Joan Sydenham, whose small estate, still called "Powell's," descended after her death in 1790 to Bishop Alford, and so to Canon Alford, who now holds it.

The Powell family possesses an ancient pedigree, going back step by step to "Yesline, one of the Five Golden Pillars of Wales, and Prince of Glamorgan" (about 1138 A.D.).

HEALE HOUSE, Curry Rivel, "was the residence of the Powell family, the old part of the house having been built in 1620 by Samuel Powell, son of William Powell, D.D., Canon of Wells and Archdeacon of Bath. The south-west front of the house, in early Georgian style, was added by Samuel Powell, great-grandson of the former Samuel, and was completed before 1725." An ancient metal bell-turret surmounts the older portion of the house, finishing in a copper vane, which takes the unusual form of an armorial shield, with the Powell crest, a moorhen, stretching its head towards the wind.

The Powell bearings are:—"A field partie of azure and gules with three lyons rampant argent. The moorend's head is the crest."

In 1620, the date of the building of Heale House, a Faculty was granted in the Court of the Archdeacon of Taunton "to Samuel

Powell, gent., to sette uppe a convenient seate in a vacante voide place of the Soute Ile of the Parishe Church to appertaine in perpetuitie to his new Mansion House within the parishe of Curryrivall."

The Powell and Alford monuments are on the walls of this south transept, and the vault is beneath. This vault was constructed by Faculty (dated 23 July 1734), by Samuel Powell who died in 1738, and was himself the first to be buried in it. Mary Alford, widow of Samuel Alford of Heale, who died in 1827, was the last to be buried there; and the vault was filled up with earth and finally closed at the time of the restoration of the Church in 1860.

Collinson's *History of Somerset* (vol. i, p. 30) gives the following:—

"Mrs. Johanna Alford, of Farringdon, in the county of Berks, gave by her will the sum of £20 every year for ever, to ten families of the second poor residing and inhabiting within this Parish (Curry Rivel); to be distributed each year between Michaelmas and Christmas by the Minister and Churchwardens."

"Marmaduke Alford (husband of the above Johanna) gave a new Communion Table and Railing, with a Bible, Common Prayer Book, and Surplice, to the Church."

Foster's *Alumni Oxonienses* gives:—"Alford, Marmaduke, son of Robert Alford of Curry Rivell, Somerset; Wadham College, matriculated 1668, age 17; B.A. 1674. Yeoman of the Chapel Royal 1675. Sergeant of the Chapel Royal 1714. Died 1715, aged 68." His Will abstract here follows:—

"Marmaduke Alford, 'yeoman of Her Majesties Chappell Royall'. 1715. 'To be buried in the yard of the new chappell in Westminster . . . . to the Right Rev. Father in God, Henry, Lord Bishop of London, Dean of her Majesties Chappell Royall, ffive guineas to buy his lordship a ring. To the Rev. Dr. Battell, Sub-Dean, a ring. To Wadham College, Oxford, £10. To my sister Mary, living in the parishe of Curry Rivell in Somersetshire, £50. To Lady Elizabeth Lloyd, a ring. To the poore of Curry Ryvall where I was born, £10. . . . . All my other goods, and my annuity purchased and payable out of Her Majesties Exchequer, to Joanna my entirely beloved wife, whom I make sole Executor."

P.C.C. 80, *Fagg.*

Alumni Oxonienses records the matriculation, in 1603, of "*George Alford* of Somerset, pleb. Balliol College, age 16. B.A. 1607." He took Holy Orders, and held the Rectory of Poyntington, near Sherborne, from 1618 to 1621.

An entry occurs in the Registers of Bickenhall, near Taunton,

under date 1613:—"*John Alford* ibi curatu pro tem.," and in 1615, "Nov. 12, Mr. John Alford, Clarke, Buryed."

George Alford of Wookey, near Wells, held the office of Churchwarden, 1718, and again in 1726.

There were Alfords for many years at WHITESTANTON.

In 1530 John Alford of Whitestanton, was witness to a will.

In 1538 William Alford was witness to a will.

In 1558 mention is made of the Reverend Alexander Alford of Whitestanton.

In 1576 the Will of "Alexander Alford, clerke, of Whitestanton, Somerset", was proved. "Agnes my Wife Executrix."

In 1578 the burial is recorded at West Monkton, Somerset, of "Agnes, wife of Alexander Alford of Whitestanton, Clerk".

In 1586 George Alford was baptized at Whitstanton.

In 1606, June 20, "John Alford and F. Gibbs were married".

In 1608, "non die Oct. Johannis Alford filius Thomæ Alford baptizatus fuit".

In 1622 "Joanna, daughter of Thomas Alford", was baptized.

About 1630 "Alexander and Benedict Alford, with their sister Joan, left the neighbourhood of Whitstanton and Chard, and became the founders of some of the Alford or Alvord families of the United States of America.

In 1636, 27 May, "Joane Alford, widow, was buried" at Whitestaunton.

In 1650 "Richard Alford and Alexander Alford, Yeoman, of Whitstanton", both of whose signatures are there appended, are mentioned in the Record Office *Royalist Composition Papers*, Series I, xxiii, 79.

In 1657 the Will of Richard Alford of Whitestaunton was proved.

In 1693, December 17, the Whitestaunton Registers record the burial of John Alford.

The little country-town of CHARD, Somerset, was also inhabited by various members of the Alford family.

In 1740 "Mr. Alford of Chard took an Account of Harvey's Charity".

In 1777 "William Alford of Chard died childless".

In 1782 Thomas Alford was Vicar of Chard, holding the benefice together with that of Ashill. He was in the direct senior line of the present Somersetshire family.

In 1805 the Reverend Thomas Alford, Vicar of Chard, died.

Armorial Bearings.

The senior branch of the Alford family have long used bearings, the origin of which is uncertain. They were to be seen on the north side of the Vestibule (now the Baptistry) of Lyme Regis Church, as the Arms of Richard and Gregory Alford, who are there buried, the latter being described as "Armiger" in the *Dorset Administrations.* They appear on some old seals and plate which descended from Thomas Alford of Ashill, and are referred to in the Will of Mrs. Elizabeth Alford of St. Audries. These arms were adopted in the Episcopal Seal of Charles Richard Alford, D.D., Bishop of Victoria, 1867. They also appear on a small mural brass, marking the burial-place of Charles Alford in St. Audries Church, Somerset, and in the Bishop Alford memorial window in Cleeve Church, Somerset, as well as in one of the beautiful windows of the Great Hall of St. Paul's School, Hammersmith, London.

Quarterings are made with Alford of Bucks and Berks (six pears); with Symes of Somerset (three escallops in pale); and with Sydenham of Somerset (three rams passant).

The crest, as used by the family for over two hundred years, is an escallop shell, the crosier being a "difference or distinction" added thereto for Bishop Alford and his descendants.

The following is a correct blazon, being an extract from the grant which is recorded at Heralds' College:—"The Armorial Bearings, hitherto used by his family with such distinctions as may be necessary, to be borne by him and his descendants, the Right Rev. Charles

Richard Alford, Doctor in Divinity, Bishop of Victoria, according to the laws of arms :—Or, on a chevron indented azure, between three roses gules barbed and seeded proper, four crosses patee and three fleurs-de-lis alternately argent; and for the Crest, an escallop argent surmounting a crosier in bend sinister or. The Motto is 'Vive ut Vivas'."

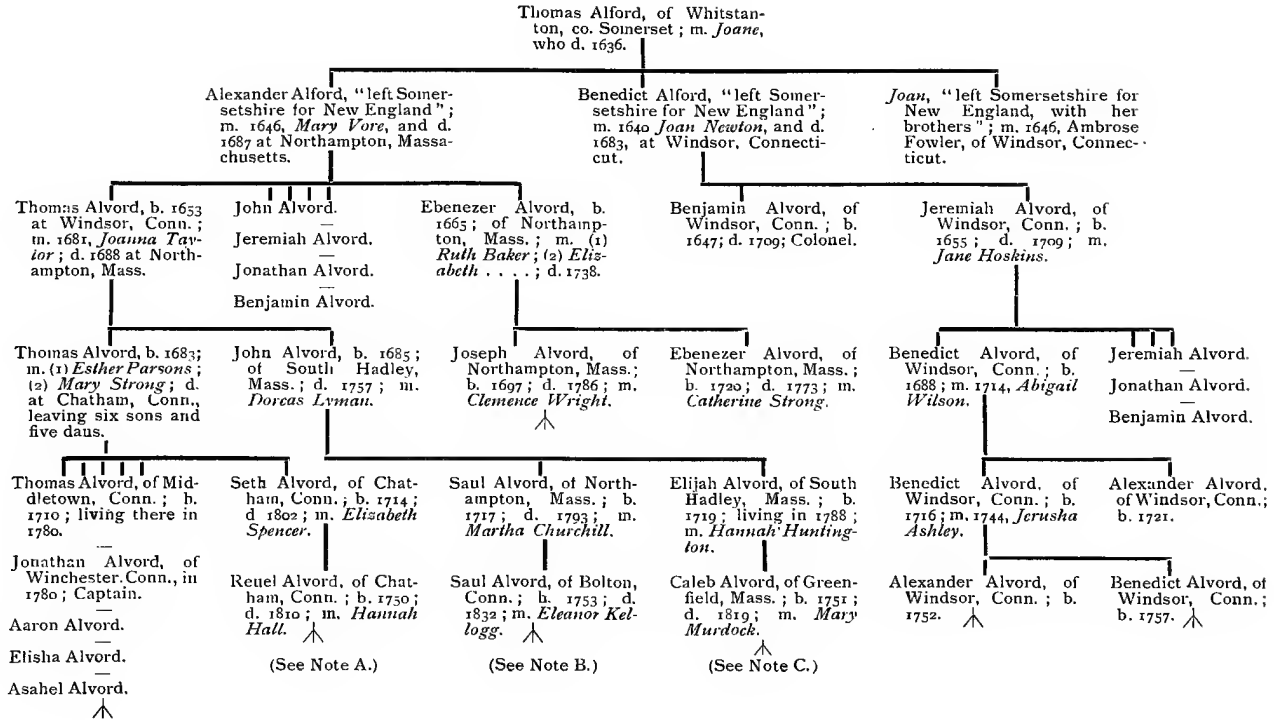
The family Motto has been well interpreted by the late Miss E. M. Alford of Taunton, in the following verse :—

"VIVE UT VIVAS."

"'Live that thou mayest live'—the Motto of our Race;
Live a life of purpose, live a life of grace,
A life of self-denial, a life of active love,
A life lived here as seeking a fuller Life above."

Table XII.

Alford of the United States of America.



The Alfords of the United States of America.

THE following particulars concerning this important offshoot of the Alford family have been drawn by the compiler from a variety of sources. Savage's *Genealogical Dictionary of New England* contains information which was incorporated in the *Burke and Alvord Memorial* (1351) in the Public Library at Boston, U.S.A. From this the *Alvord Memorial* was taken, while a further result has been a comprehensive *Pedigree with Notes* by John Watson Alvord, of Chicago, 1897. The connection with Somersetshire was worked out by the Rev. R. Grosvenor Bartlett of Corfe Castle; and to these gentlemen, and also to the Rev. Frederick Alford of Talcottville, Mr. D. S. Alford of Lawrence, Kansas, and more recently to Mr. Samuel M. Alvord of Hartford, Conn., the compiler gratefully acknowledges his indebtedness.

The families bearing the name of Alford or Alvord, now spreading far and wide through the United States, had at least a two-fold origin. In 1634 one William Alford left London for the New World across the Atlantic, and somewhere about the same date two brothers, Alexander and Benedict Alford, with their sister Joan, "left Somerset for New England."

The Puritan motive for this emigration cannot be passed without notice. "Many Godly people . . . . being denied the free exercise of religion . . . . accord-

ing to their own consciences . . . . did, under a Charter granted by King Charles ye first . . . . remove themselves into the Colony of ye Massachusetts Bay in New England . . . . that they might worship God without burthensome Impositions." "So we came", writes one of them "by the hand of God through the deeps . . . . having preaching or expounding of the Word every day for ten weeks"—so long was the voyage.

The most notable ships in which they sailed were the *Mary and John* of 400 tons—so small a vessel—and the *Mayflower*. In the former came Richard Vore, John Strong of Taunton, the Rev. E. Hewitt of Wraxall, and Thomas Ford of Somersetshire; and in the latter Edward Fuller; all of whom afterwards became connected by marriage with the Alfords.

The variation of spelling the name has already been shown to be of little importance, yet it appears as though, generally speaking, the Alfords sprang from Middlesex, and the Alvords—the Somerset pronunciation being at once recognisable in the variation—from the western county.

We take first those of Middlesex origin:—

William Alford, a member of the Skinners' Company, with his wife *Mary* Alford, left London in 1634, and, landing safely in America, settled in Salem, Massachusetts. Some mention of this family is made by Savage, but their descendants do not appear to have been very numerous, and no pedigree is available. Three of William Alford's children were baptised at Salem (where his wife "joined the Church" in 1636), viz., Nathaniel in 1637, Samuel in 1639, and Bellia in 1642. "He removed for a season to New Haven, and

there had two or more children born before 1654." Returning to Massachusetts he settled in Boston, where he died in 1677, his will being dated the previous year.

Benjamin Alford, whom Savage names as a younger son of the above William Alford, was a merchant of Boston, Mass., and a member of the Artillery Company of 1671. He married *Mary*, daughter of James *Richards* Esq. of Hartford, and had several sons and daughters, whose births and baptisms are recorded between 1683 and 1694. Benjamin Alford was "a man of importance in Boston". His will is dated February 19, 1694, the Probate being thirteen years later.

The Honourable Colonel **John Alford,** eldest son of the above Benjamin Alford, was baptised at "Third Church", Boston, 5 July 1685. He was a member of the Artillery Company at Charleston in 1714, "was one of the King's Councilers, and distinguished as founder of the Alford Professorship of Theology at Harvard, and for giving large sums to the Society for Propagating the Gospel among the Indians in North America". He married *Margaret*, daughter of Colonel Thomas *Savage*, and died "highly respected" in Charleston in 1761, aged 76.

We turn now to the family of Somersetshire origin, of whose source there can be no possible doubt, although the particulars are somewhat confused.

The pedigree-table which precedes these notes, shows a few selected lines of descent from the Alexander and Benedict Alford, who left their home in "the neighbourhood of Whitestanton and Chard in the county of Somerset for New England". They were the sons of

Thomas Alford, of Whitestanton, and Joane his wife. This Thomas Alford was the son, or the grandson, of the Rev. Alexander Alford, of Whitestanton, and Agnes his wife, who died, he in 1576, and she in the year following, their wills (see Appendix) being proved in the Court of the Archdeaconry of Taunton.

From these Alfords of Somerset came the American families here under consideration. The descendants of Benedict Alford are not very numerous, but those of Alexander Alford now number several thousands.

Alexander Alford, the elder of the two brothers who with their sister Joan "left Somersetshire for New England", landed doubtless in Massachusetts Bay, "came up from the Bay", and settled as "one of the early proprietors of Windsor, Connecticut", where his "home-lot" is identified.

In 1646, October 29, he married *Mary*, daughter of Richard and Ann *Vore*, who, "born in England, came over with her parents in the *Mary and John*". By this marriage Alexander Alford had six sons and four daughters, some lines of his descendants being shown in the foregoing pedigree-table.

In 1661, selling his lands at Windsor, he moved to Northampton, Mass., where he was "for many years a large proprietor, and an original member of the first Church". The record is extant of "Alexander Alvord's" —the spelling already changed—"lands, which he hath

WHITSTANTON (spelt in various ways), WINSHAM, and CHARD, —this latter a pleasant country town lying between the two former villages, the three parishes together forming the extreme south-west corner of the co. of Somerset—were for many generations the homes of Alfords, who held positions of respect and local responsibility, and were small landowners.

purchased, and which were granted to him by the town of Northampton, to him and his heirs and assigns to have and to hould forever".

In 1682 Alexander Alvord, excepting one other proprietor in the Northampton township, "had the largest number of rods for maintaining the common defence".

He died 3 October 1687. His will follows :—

"Alexander Alvord of Northampton in the Countie of Hampshire in the Massachusets Bay in New England, May 23, 1687, weak in strength and well-stricken in years . . . . I comitt my soul to God yt gave it . . . . my body to be buried in comely manner, and as for outward estate—whereas my son John Alvord, my daughter Abigail wife to Thomas Roote, Mary Miller deceased, and Elizabeth Birt deceased, having received the full of their portions already, I only give as follows, viz. : twentie shillings. To Thomas Alvord and to his two sons Thomas and John twentie shillings to each of them. To my son Benjamin my old house joining to that which my son Willer lived in, together with that piece of land it standeth upon. To my son Jeremiah thirtie pounds. To my daughter Sarah thirtie pounds. To my son Jonathan twentie pounds. The rest of my estate I give to my son Ebenezer Alvord, viz. : my house, barne, orchard, pasture, meadow land, stock, household stuff, and all my estate whatsoever. My son shall not alienate any part of the lands, but make disposal of the same to the heirs of his body. My son Ebenezer to be sole Executor. My trustie friend Mr. Hawley to see this my Will accomplished, and to take special care of my unmarried children, to advise them in matching, and to have the oversight of them while they remayne in a single condition."

Northampton, U.S.A., Reg. of Probate, I, 265.

Benedict Alford, the younger of the two brothers who with their sister Joan "left Somersetshire for New England", is mentioned in 1637 as "of Windsor, Connecticut".

In that year an offensive war against the Pequots was declared, that tribe of American Indians proving troublesome to the settlers, and Benedict Alvord was one of a

company of thirty from the Windsor "plantations". A decisive battle was fought on May 26, 1637, and the little army—from Windsor, Hartford, and Wethersfield—returned victorious. The names of those who fought are recorded :—"Captain Mason, the very formost of them all, and brave Sergeant Alvord," etc.

He then returned to England, doubtless for "his espoused Joan Nurton, or Newton, who was of the parish of Broadway" about four miles from Whitstanton. While at home a purchase of cattle was made, and Benedict Alford's signature also appears as a witness on a Deed executed in 1639 by Nicholas Nurton.

Crossing the Atlantic once more Benedict Alvord married *Joan Nurton*, 26 November 1640, at Windsor, Conn., where he had a grant of land, and where their five children were born. There, too, he died 23 April 1683.

Their son *Benjamin Alvord* was born 11 July 1647, and followed his father's early warlike propensities. An old tablet in the burial ground at New London bears the following inscription :—

"Interred under this stone
is the body of
Colonel Benjamin Alvord,
who departed this life
August ye 12th. Ano. Dom. 1709,
in ye 63rd yeare of his age."

Their son *Jeremiah Alvord*, born 24 December 1651, married and continued the family as is shown in the pedigree-table, the family names of Benedict and Alexander being carried down to the fifth generation.

Joseph Alvord—we note the Puritan use of scriptural names—born at Northampton, Mass., in March 1697, was the second son of Ebenezer Alvord and Ruth his

first wife, and grandson of the foregoing Alexander Alford. He settled at Hampton, on a property which he bought in 1730, carrying on business as a weaver, and employing a large number of hands. "He tore down the old house, and erected a large substantial mansion instead of it." "Mr. Alvord owned other estates." He married, 30 June 1730, *Clemence Wright*, by whom he had seven children. He died 1 January 1786, and was buried in the Northampton ancient burial ground.

Their son *Medad Alvord* was born 6 January 1738, and lived in Bridge Street, Northampton. He was twice married, but appears to have left only two daughters. He died in 1798, and was buried in the Northampton burial ground.

"In memory of
Mr. Medad Alvord,
who died 15th May, 1798,
in the 61st year of his age.
A man of common sense, strong mind,
and good judgement, and a philanthropist."

The other sons of Joseph and Clemence Alvord left between them ten sons and five daughters.

We now follow out the three lines of descent shown in the pedigree, Table XII, under Notes A, B, and C.

Note A.—Starting from Alexander Alford of Windsor, Conn., who in 1646 married *Mary Vore*, we take the line of his eldest surviving son, Thomas Alvord of Northampton, Mass., born 1653, who married in 1681 *Joanna Taylor*. Their eldest surviving son, Thomas Alvord, born 1683, and afterwards of Middletown, Conn., married (secondly) *Mary Strong*, whose fourth son Seth Alvord, born 1714, of Chatham, Conn., married *Elizabeth Spencer*. Reuel Alvord, also afterwards of Chatham, born 1750, was the son of Seth and Elizabeth, and married in 1774 *Hannah Hall*, whose second son James Hall Alvord, born 1781, married *Lucy Cook*, and was for forty years a Deacon in Winsted, Conn. The Rev. John

Watson Alvord, born 1807, was their eldest son, and married in 1845 *Myrtilla M. Peck*, whose son John Watson Alvord of Chicago, Civil Engineer, born 1861, was the Compiler of the *Pedigree with Notes* published in 1897.

Note B.—Commencing again with Alexander Alford of Windsor, Conn., who married *Mary Vore* in 1646, through their eldest surviving son Thomas Alvord of Northampton, Mass., born 1653, who married *Joanna Taylor*, we now follow the line of his third son John Alvord, Assessor, of South Hadley, who was born in 1685, and married in 1708 *Dorcas Lyman*. Saul Alvord, third son of the above John and Dorcas, was born in 1717, settled at Northampton, and married *Martha Churchill*. Their eldest son, another Saul Alvord, was born in 1753, lived at Bolton, Conn., and married in 1778 *Eleanor Kellogg*. Martin Alvord of Bolton, born 1788, was their son, and married, first *Sophia Shepherd*, and secondly *Martha Burleigh Clark*. The Rev. Frederick Alvord of Talcottville, Tolland Co., Conn., born 1828, married *Susan Gridly Ely*, and died in 1903, was a son of the above Martin, as was also Elijah Anson Alvord of Bolton, Conn., born 1825, who married *Cynthia Ann Warner*, whose son Samuel Morgan Alvord, born 1869, of Hartford, Conn., B.A. of Yale, is now a Professor in the Hartford Public High School.

Note C.—Starting once more from Alexander Alford of Windsor, Conn., who married *Mary Vore* in 1646, through their son Thomas Alvord who married *Joanna Taylor* in 1681, and their grandson John Alvord of South Hadley, who married *Dorcas Lyman*, we take the line of Elijah Alvord of Hadley, the fourth son of John and Dorcas, born in 1719, "a prominent man in the town and Church," who married *Hannah Judd*. Caleb Alvord, his only son, of Greenfield, Mass., was born in 1751, and married *Mary Murdock*, leaving many descendants. His eldest son Elijah Alvord, born 1777, "an eminent lawyer" of Greenfield, Mass., married in 1805 *Sabra Wells*, whose son Daniel Wells Alvord, born 1816, became a member of the State Senate. Daniel Wells Alvord married (secondly) *Caroline*, daughter of Judge *Dewey*, whose son Charles Dewey Alvord was born in 1860, another son, Major Henry E. Alvord, "Soldier, Farmer, Statesman," dying in 1904.

In Pedigree Table XII her name is given as Huntington. The "Alvord memorial" gives the latter name with a query.

In the Public Library at Northampton, Massachusetts, there is a bronze Memorial Tablet recording the names of those who from that town served in the various wars of their country. The following are included:—

"King Philip's War, 1676, Thomas Alvord."

"French and Indian War, 1722, Benjamin Alvord."

"French and Indian War, 1754 to 1763, Benjamin Alvord, Stephen Alvord, Thomas Alvord."

"Revolutionary War, 1775 to 1783, Eliab Alvord, Elisha Alvord, John Alvord, Samuel Alvord."

During the American and Spanish War in the Philippine Islands, the following was recorded :—

"Manila, February 1899, Lieutenant Alford, Company 1 of the Kansas Regiment, killed."

Appendix of Wills.

NOTE.—The following is a list of various Alford Wills in the Prerogative Court of Canterbury and other probate Registries relating to the families of Alford mentioned in the foregoing notes. Many other Alford Wills have been examined, but it has not been thought necessary to include them. Abstracts of those Wills to which references are attached will be found in the preceding pages.

1.—JOHANNE ALFORD of London, 1493; see p. 13.

2.—ELLEN ALFORD of Mere, Wilts, 1509; p. 59.

3.—ROGER ALFORD of Chelmsford, 1517; p. 13.

4.—JOHN ALFORD of London, 1535; p. 13.

5.—ROBERT ALFORD of London, 1546; p. 25.

6.—THOMAS ALFORD of Mere, Wilts, 1551; p. 57.

7.—JOHN ALFORD of Winsham, Somerset, 1561; p. 79.

8.—JOHN ALFORD of Bridport, 1562; p. 69.

9.—WILLIAM ALFORD of Honiton, Devon, 5 May 1569. "To be buryed in Church of St. Michell, Honiton, ... to that church . . . . to All Hallowes Church. . . . . Jane my wife . . . . my brother John . . . . my daughter Mary and William my eldest sonne, neither of full age . . . . my brothers' and sisters' children . . . . land in Lyme Regis to my eldest sonne William . . . . house at Colyton . . . . my moorlands in Dorset . . . . salt cellar with cover which are both silver and gylt . . . . my cup covered and bottomed with silver . . . . to brother John West my russet gown furred with black, my cote and best dublet, and my cloke faced with mockado . . . . residue to my wife Jane, sole executrix." *P.C.C.* 14, *Lyon.*

10.—HARRY ALFORD of Weston Zoyland, Somerset, 1575, p. 117.

11.—ALEXANDER ALFORD, clerke, of Whitestanton, co. Somerset, 1576 (Westmounckton Test.). "In the name of God, Amen. The xxth day of Decembre in the yeare of our Lorde God 1576. I Alexander Alforde of the p'ishe of Whitestanton in the countie of Som'st clerke beinge whole and p'fecte of remembrance thankes be unto almightie God Do ordaine

and make my testamente and last will in manner and forme followinge that is to say first I bequethe my soule to Almightie God and my bodie to therthe to be buried in the churchyard of Whitestanton aforesaid. Itm. I geve and bequethe to the said p'ishe church xij*d.* Itm. I geve to my sonne Salamon my tablebords. Itm. I geve to euerie of my children iiij*d.* a pece. All the rest of my gooddes and cattells and Debtes not geven nor bequethed in this my p'sente laste Will and Testamente I Do geve and bequethe unto Agnes my Wief whome I make my whole and sole Executrix to use and dispose the same as it semethe beste to her discression. Yereunto bearethe wittnes—Tristram Easton and Richard Brownsey."

Sum Invent. iij*li.* xviij*s.*

Court of the Archdeacon of Taunton, Vol. v, fol. 318.

12.—AGNES ALFORD, widow, of Whitestanton, co. Somerset, 1577. "I Agnes Alforde, widoe, in the p'ishe of Whitestanton, beinge in p'fecte mynde and memory and sicke of bodie do make this my laste Will and Testamente as followethe. Firste I bequethe my soule to Almightie God my Saviour in whome is my truste to be saved by his blood-sheddinge for me and all other. Itm. I bequethe my bodie to be buried in Xtian buriall. Itm. To my mother churche of Bathe and Wells iiij*d.* Itm. I geve to Jone Symes my best gowne . . . . to my daughter Mary a platter and a salteseller . . . . to my daughter Alice one smocke and one aprone . . . . to Jone Paine one stocke of bees . . . . to my daughter Elinor my blacke frocke, a podinger, a sawcer . . . . unto my sonne Willyam a borde that dothe stande uppon the benche . . . . to John a stocke of bees . . . . to Salamon a frize gowne . . . . to Bartholomew a douste bed, ij feather pilloes, a bolster and a paire of blanketts, a covlett. The residue of my goodes to Brigett my daughter my full Executrix." (Made the ixth of November 1577, proved iii December 1577.)

Court of the Archdeacon of Taunton, Vol. v, fol. 316.

13.—RICHARD ALFORD of Stourton, Wilts, 1577; p. 60.

14.—ROGER ALFORD of Hitcham, Bucks, 1580; p. 27.

15.—THOMAS ALFORD of Mere, Wilts, 1590; p. 60.

16.—WILLIAM ALFORD of Bridport, Dorset, 1597; p. 70.

17.—ELIZABETH ALFORD of Hitcham, Bucks, 1598; p. 28.

18.—JOHN ALFORD of Fawley, Bucks, 1600; p. 20.

19.—JOHN ALFORD of Bridport, 1609; p. 70.

20.—JOHN ALLFORD of Hereford, 1614; p. 49.

21.—RICHARD ALFORD of Wells, co. Somerset, 1615. "To be buried in the Churchyard of St. Cuthbert's, Wells . . . . to my wife the house where I dwell, with the furnishing . . . . remainder to my son Matthew, who is to have the shop which now my brother John Alford has . . . . My other children . . . . My wife Joane executrix. Overseers, my brother William and brother in law John Taunton."
Wells Probate Reg., Orig. Wills, No. xvii.

22.—THOMAS ALFORD of Coventrie, 1616; p. 50.

23.—ALICIA ALLFORD of Coventrie, 1617; p. 50.

24.—WILLIAM ALFORD of Wells, in the co. of Somerset, 1621. "To be buried in St. Cuthbert's, Wells . . . . to my eldest sonne John . . . . to my second sonne William . . . . to my three daughters . . . . My wife to be executrix."
P.C.C. 3, Dale.

25.—HENRY ALFORD of Othery, near Bridgwater, co. Somerset, 1631. "To the Cathedral of Wells . . . . to the Church of Othery . . . . My brother John Alford . . . . Alice my daughter, wife of John Clarke . . . . Elizabeth my daughter, wife of Henry Allen . . . . Joane my daughter, wife of Arthur Mychell . . . . John Clarke senior, residuary legatee and Executor." (Proved at Glastonbury, 6 October 1631.)
Wells Probate Reg., Orig. Wills, No. i.

26.—EDWARD ALFORD of Offington, co. Sussex, 1632; p. 36.

27.—AGNES ALFORD of West Monkton, co. Somerset, widow, 6 November 1632. "To my dau'r Alice Adams, widow . . . . Edith Adams my grandchild . . . . My grandchildren Marie, Francis, and Agnes Alford . . . . My dau'r in law Agnes Hunt . . . . My grandchildren Richard, Philip, and Marie Brice . . . . Residue to my dau'r Marie Brice, sole Executrix." (Proved 5 April 1633.)
Court of the Archdeacon of Taunton.

28.—RICHARD ALFORD of Hereford, 1634; p. 49.

29.—EDWARDE OLFORD of Hambridge, Curry Rivell, Somerset, 1634. "To be buried at Curririvell . . . . To Laurence and Marmaduke Olferde, the sonnes of my sonne Robert . . . . all the rest to my wyfe Elizabeth . . . . Thomas Peylle my kinsman . . . . Robert, Thomas, Humphry, and William, my sonnes . . . . My sonne Robert Olferd to be Executor." Witnesses—Thomas Peylle and Marmaduke Walsh."
Court of the Archdeacon of Taunton.

30.—ANTHONY ALFORD of Foundhope, Hereford, 1636. "To the Parishe Church . . . . for the perpetual settlinge of a Stocke for the poore people of the Parishe . . . . Joane Davies my onely daughter . . . . Mary Davies my niece . . . . Hugh Davies my sonne in law sole Executor."

P.C.C. 3, *Pile.*

31.—ELIZABETH ALFORD of Sarum, 1637; p. 60.

32.—MARY ALFORD "the nowe wife of Sir Edward Alford, 1639, of Cashiobury, co. Hartford, Knt., and one of the daughters and co-heires of the Rt. Hon. Viscount Campden, Deceased. "To be interred in the Isle of Watford Parish Church . . . . Plate . . . . Household Stuff . . . . Mannor House . . . . to my daughter Elizabeth Capell . . . . her sonne and my grandchild Arthur Capell . . . . her child Mary Capell . . . . the greatest silver bason and ewer waying 123 ounces . . . . four silver candlesticks waying 142 ounces . . . . my Rose-diamond ringe . . . . a Silly bubb pott of sylver with a cover . . . . [etc.] My dear Cosen John Alford . . . . my dear Cosen Jane Alford . . . . the Mannor of Allerton. Residue to my dear and lovinge Husband Sir Edward Alford." *P.C.C.* 198, *Harvey.*

33.—BENJAMIN ALFORD of Southampton and of Andover, Hants, 1640. "To the Church and poor of Andover . . . . to my sonne-in-lawe Richard Kent and to my daughter Joane his wife . . . . unto my sonne John Alford . . . . To my wife Avis Alford my dwellinge house in Andover with the gardens and lands thereto belonging . . . . My daughters Avis and Katherine." *P.C.C.* 128, *Coventry.*

34.—WILLIAM ALFORD of Lyme Regis, 1641; p. 90.

35.—RICHARD ALFORD of Weston Zoyland, 1642; p. 119.

36.—WILLIAM ALFORD of Shillingford, Berks, Glover, 1643. "To be buried at Shillingford . . . . my wife Welthyenne . . . . my son Thomas Alford . . . . my daughter Anne (under 21 years of age) . . . . The children of my brother Oliver . . . . My wife to be Executor."

Seal with Arms—a cross invected between four roundels.

37.—JOHN ALFORD, clerk, of Aishton in the co. of Devon, 1646. "The last Will and Testament of John Alford, late Rector of the Parish of Ashton (nuncupative), beinge sicke of body but of perfect memory, the last day of January 1645. To the poore of the parish . . . . To Elizabeth Alford his wife . . . . one Chattle called by the name of Rudgewaies . . . . Unto Theophilus Alford his sonne one silver bole and one gold

ring . . . . The rest of his goods . . . . to William Bowden his son in law whom he ordayned and appointed his sole Executor." *Exeter Probate Registry.*

38.—JAMES ALFORD, citizen of London, 1646. "My three children James, John, and Judith . . . . My lovinge mother Elizabeth Alford . . . . my sister Joane . . . . my cosen Wallis . . . . my brother Richard . . . . my sister Marie the wife of John Cecill of Bristoll . . . . my wife Judith sole Executrix." *P.C.C.* 91, *Twisse.*

39.—ANDREW ALFORD of St. Leonard's Eastcheap, London, 1648. "My wife Martha . . . . My eldest son Anthony . . . . my second son Richard . . . . my daughter Elizabeth . . . . my two younger sons John and Andrew . . . . my wife, and friend Francis, Executors." *P.C.C.* 108, *Essex.*

40.—JANE ALFORD of Chew Magna, co. Somerset, widow, 1648 (dated 12 March 1639). "To my son Bartholomew Alford the table and little sideboard in the hall, but it is to remain there, and after his death to go to my daughter Katherine Alford who is residuary Legatee and Executrix." (Proved at Wells, 1 November 1648.) *Wells Probate Registry.*

41.—WILLIAM ALFORD of Lyme Regis, co. Dorset, 1648; p. 91.

42.—JOHN ALFORD of Offington, co. Sussex, 1649; p. 37.

43.—SAMUEL ALFORD of Exeter, the elder, 1651. Letters of Administration "of the goodes . . . . of Samuel Alford, Merchant, late of the Cittie of Exeter, deceased, granted to Samuel Alford the naturall and lawfull sonne of the said deceased, to distribute and dispose of in such manner as by any competent Judge shall be equieted and appointed." *Exeter Probate Office.*

44.—ROBERT ALFORD, M.A., Viccar of Downe-ampney, Gloucestershire, 1653. "To be buried at Downe-ampney . . . . To the poore and Church of Downe-ampney . . . . all I possess to Marie Alford my deare wife, whome I make sole Executrix." *P.C.C.* 319, *Aylett.*

45.—SIR EDWARD ALFORD of Offington, co. Sussex, 1653. Letters of Administration. "Commission (24 Sept. 1653) to Dame Ann Alford to administer the goods of Sir Edward Alford, Knight, late of Offington in the co. of Sussex, deceased." *Somerset House Registry, Admons.*

46.—WILLIAM ALFORD of Burlescombe, co. Devon, 1654. "My sonne Thomas . . . . my sonne George . . . . my sonne

William (a minor) . . . . Elizabeth my daughter . . . . my sonnes Uriath, Charles, and John, all under the age of 21 . . . . Residue to Mary Alford my wife."

P.C.C. 310, *Alchin.*

47.—WILLIAM ALFORD of Mere, Wilts, 1654; p. 60.

48.—RICHARD ALFORD of Whitestanton, co. Somerset, 1657. "To Richard Smith, Clerk, and to Thomas Alford of Chard, my kinsman, my house, garden, etc., in the Borrough of Chard, for the benefit of Christian my daughter-in-law wife of my sonne Alexander Alford, to whom remainder. Also messuage in Whitstanton wherein I nowe dwell, with lands, meadows, orchards, gardens, for the use of Mary my wife, with remainder to Alexander Alford my sonne . . . . Mary Alford my grandchild . . . . The children of Alexander . . . . Anne my sister . . . . Elizabeth my daughter . . . . To the poore of Whitstanton . . . . My sonne Alexander sole executor." *P.C.C.* 404, *Ruthen.*

49.—RICHARD ALFORD of Lyme Regis, co. Dorset, 1658; p. 84.

50.—FRANCES ALFORD, widow, of co. Surrey, 1659; p. 37.

51.—WILLIAM ALFORD of Rowborough, co. Devon, 1660. "Edward Alford my brother . . . . Lewis Alford my sonne . . . . Lands called Grottinge in Rowborough to Mary my wife, and after her death to the said Lewis Alford. To Joseph my sonne . . . . To William my sonne the mill-close and the little wood . . . . Francis, Mary, Prudence, Thomsin, and John, sonne and daughters of me the said William Alford . . . . Charity Alford my daughter."

P.C.C. 79, *Nabbs.*

52.—THOMAS ALFORD of Bristol, 1660; p. 60.

53.—GREGORY ALFORD of Bishop's Teignton, co. Devon, 1661. "Administration of the goods of Gregory Alford of Teington Epis. granted on behalf of Agnes his daughter to Thomas Comyns and Richard Cornelius, the nyne and twentieth Daye of Aprill in the yeare of our Lord God 1661."

Exeter Probate Registry.

54.—AGNES ALFORD of Chard, co. Somerset, 1661; p. 79.

55.—ROBERT ALFORD of Winsham, co. Somerset, 1666; p. 79.

56.—THOMAS ALFORD of Priddie in the parish of Chewton, Somerset, Gentleman, 1668. "The will nuncupative of Thomas Alford deceased, who by word of mouth on 4 December 1667 declared his will to be that his son Thomas should have £100; his daughter Rose £60; the residue to

his son Robert who was to allow his mother a sufficient maintenance for life." Proved at Wells 14 November 1668.
Wells, Archdeacon's Court, No. lix.

57.—EDITH ALFORD of Weston Zoyland, co. Somerset, widow, 1670. "My daughter Mary Alford . . . . my grand-daughter Mary Alford . . . . my son John Alford . . . . my daughter Edith Alford to be residuary legatee and executrix. My son Richard Alford [Will 82] to be Overseer and Trustee until the said John and Edith are of the age of 21 years."
Wells, Bishop's Court, No. lxxiv.

58.—ELIZABETH ALFORD of Winsham, co. Somerset, 1673; p. 79.

59.—SAMUEL ALFORD of Exeter, 1677. Letters of Administration "of all the goods and chattels of Samuel Alford, late of the Citie of Exeter, deceased." Granted 11 January 1677 "to Margerie Alford the relict and Administratrix and Edmund Matthew." *Exeter Probate Registry.*

60.—THOMAS ALFORD of Chard, co. Somerset, 1678; p. 79.

61.—JOHN ALFORD of Clarendon Park, co. Wilts, 1678; p. 52.

62.—THOMAS ALFORD of Woolavington, co. Somerset, 1679. "My sonne Richard Alford . . . . my sonnes Thomas, Edward, and Andrew Alford . . . . my daughter Mary . . . . Residue . . . . of houses, lands, and tenements, to my wife Susan Alford, Executrix."
Wells, Archdeacon's Court, No. xliii.

63.—ANNE ALFORD of Hall Place, Hurley, Berks, 1679; p. 21.

64.—JOHN ALFORD of Milton Abbas, co. Dorset, 1681; p. 70.

65.—ALEX. ALFORD of Northampton, Mass., U.S.A., 1687; p. 191.

66.—WILLIAM ALLFORD of St. Olave's Southwark, co. Surrey, 1688. "Citizen and Feltmaker of London . . . . To my sister Ann, now wife of William Hickman . . . . Residue to my wife Grace Allford, whom I make Executrix. John Moore, Overseer." Dated 19 January; proved 26 January 1688, by Grace Alford the relict. *P.C.C. 1, Ent.*

67.—MELCHISEDECK ALFORD of Ottery St. Mary, co. Devon, 1689; p. 92.

68.—THOMAS ALFORD of Wyke St. Lawrence, co. Somerset, 1692. "House and farm to my wife Ursula Alford . . . . My son William, and his children William, Thomas, and Ursula . . . . My daughter Mary and her children . . . . My daughter Ursula . . . . My son Thomas . . . . To my son in law Samuel Thomas and my daughter Ann ten acres called Oldfields . . . . To my daughter Charity £70 at the

age of 21 . . . . To my wife Ursula a gold piece of 17*s.* 6*d.*" Inventory £540. Witness, John Wiglesworth, Vicar of Banwell. *Wells, Archdeacon's Court, No. xxxii.*

69.—RICHARD ALFORD of Weston Zoyland, co. Som., 1693; p. 122.

70.—GREGORY ALFORD of Lyme Regis, co. Dorset, 1697; p. 88.

71.—LETTICE ALFORD of Weston Zoyland, co. Som., 1700; p. 122.

72.—RICHARD ALLFORD of the Parish of Christchurch (Southwark) in the co. of Surrey, 1707. "To my daughter Katherine Cramond, widdow, £20 and a silver cup marked R.A. To my daughter Elizabeth Huntingdon, widdow, £20 and a silver porringer. To my daughter Dorothy Allford £20 and a large solid gold ring. To my sonn Hugh Allford £40 and a silver tankard and a large wrought silver castor. To my daughter Mary Allford £30 and a silver caudle cup and cover marked R.A. Unto my sonn William Allford and his heires that house and garden in the parish of Lambeth in the co. of Surrey. To my daughter Esther, wife of John Clarke, a large silver Server marked R.A. . . . . My mother-in-law Dorothy Joynes deceased . . . . Unto my sonn Richard Allford and his heires my house in Lambeth known as The Green." *P.C.C.* 1, *Poley.*

73.—THOS. ALFORD, Clerke, of Curry Rivel, co. Som., 1708; p. 125.

74.—GEORGE ALFORD of High Wycombe, co. Bucks, 1710; p. 22.

75.—LEWIS ALFORD of Bridport, co. Dorset, 1713; p. 70.

76.—CHRISTOPHER ALFORD of Mere, co. Wilts, 1713; p. 60.

77.—MARMADUKE ALFORD of Westminster, 1715; p. 182.

78.—JOHN ALFORD of Symondsbury, co. Dorset, 1715; p. 71.

79.—THOMAS ALLFORD of Gillingham, co. Dorset, 1720; p. 71.

80.—ROBERT ALFORD of Winsham, co. Somerset, 1725; p. 79.

81.—THOMAS ALFORD of Bristol, 1727; p. 59.

82.—RICHARD ALFORD of Weston Zoyland in the co. of Somerset, Yeoman, 1730. "My sister Mary Lyng and her three children . . . . John Rees, Richard Chapman, and William Fisher, to be Trustees . . . . My sister-in-law Elizabeth Chapman." Dated 3 March 1729. Proved 17 October 1730. *Wells, Bishop's Court, No. cxi.*

83.—MARY ALFORD of Bristol, widow, 1730; p. 61.

84.—SAMUEL ALFORD, Clerk, of Axbridge, co. Som., 1730; p. 124.

85.—MARGARET ALFORD of Buckland St. Mary, co. Somerset, widow, 1731. "To Joane Wyatt of Blindmore in the parish of Buck-

land St. Mary, widow, all that my portion of land lately by me purchased of Thomas Kirkland, gentleman, in the said parish, out of the profits of the said land to free, clear, and discharge Jonathan Richards of Combe St. Nicholas, wherein I Margaret Alford do now stand bound. The remaining part to Jonathan Richards, and I do hereby give him the same. Residue to Joane Wyatt, Executrix."

Taunton Probate Registry, T.

86.—SAMUEL ALFORD of Exeter, 1735. Letters of Administration "of the goods, chattels, and credits, of Samuel Alford deceased, late of the City of Exeter, granted the 10th of December 1735 to Susannah Alford, widow, to well and truly administer according to law." Signed by Susannah Alford and Thomas Gardner. Inventory includes "furniture, eight old pictures, five pictures, six brass candlesticks, a paire of brass doggs." An account is appended of "Debts due from Richard Alford, deceased."

Exeter Probate Registry.

87.—JOSEPH ALFORD of East Chinnock, co. Somerset, 1742; p. 79.

88.—PHILIP ALFORD of Chard, co. Somerset, 1752; p. 80.

89.—MARY ALFORD of Olveston, co. Gloucester, widow, 1755. "To my brother John Pullen of Latteridge all my close of ground lying within the Manor of Tockington for his life, and after to Elizabeth daughter of John and Sarah Harris . . . . My brother Thomas Pullen . . . . Residue to my brother John aforesaid, sole Executor." *Bristol Probate Registry.*

90.—ROBERT ALFORD of Axbridge, co. Somerset, 1766; p. 80.

91.—FRANCES ALFORD of Bristol, 1766; p. 61.

92.—THOMAS ALFORD of Ashill, co. Somerset, 1777; p. 128.

93.—WILLIAM ALFORD of Chard, co. Somerset, 1777, p. 80.

94.—ELIZABETH ALFORD of Axbridge, co. Somerset, 1784; p. 80.

95.—THOMAS ALFORD of Ashill, co. Somerset, 1805; p. 135.

96.—SAMUEL ALFORD of Heale, Curry Rivel, co. Som., 1854; p. 157.

97.—HENRY ALFORD, Dean of Canterbury, 1871; p. 161.

98.—ELIZABETH ALFORD of West Quantockshead, 1877; p. 137.

99.—WALTER ALFORD of Drayton, co. Somerset, 1892; p. 169.

100.—CHARLES RICHARD ALFORD, Bishop of Victoria, 1898; p. 140.

JOSIAH GEORGE ALFORD,
Hon. Canon of Bristol.

J. G. Alford

To face p. 204.

LIST OF CHIEF AUTHORITIES CONSULTED,

WITH

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CORRIGENDA ET ADDENDA.

P. 10.—Table I, Johanna Alford, "she d. 1422", *to read* "1493".

P. 36.—"iii. William Alford, of whom hereafter (6)", *to read* "iii. William Alford, of whom hereafter, p. 42".

all entered in place.

P. 47.—"20 Henry VII", *to read* "20 Henry VIII".

P. 114, line 28.—"Six" *should now read* "seven".

P. 139, line 1.—"Foreign Office", *to read* "Colonial Office". The nomination was made by the Earl of Carnarvon.

P. 147, last two lines.—*For* "is preparing for Holy Orders", *read* "was ordained in Durham Cathedral on Whit-Sunday, 1908, the seventh generation in Holy Orders".

P. 194, line 28.—"Married Hannah Judd" is given in the Pedigree table as "married Hannah Huntington". The Alvord Memorial gives the latter with a query.

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